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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

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17 August 1984

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ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF SANGHA REGION

Brazzaville MWETI in French No 990 14 Jun 84 p 3

[Article by Francois Lebegue]

[Text] Since independence, there have been few signs of economic progress in Sangha. Why? There was a painfully long period of groping and missteps before the government finally came up with a recognizable plan for the nation's economic development. All through that period, a number of one-shot improvement or development projects fed robust growth in cacao-growing and motivated a degree of repair and maintenance on some of the roads that enabled growers to get their product to market. This tattered remnant of colonial policy lent no encouragement to the development of much of the region's natural resources.

In a region where there is timber, oil-palm, and cacao, industry is still in the embryonic stage. In the entire region, there are only three major enterprises (two private timber companies and one government oil processing plant associated with an oil-palm grove), employing a total of 125 workers and trailing in a sorry third place behind agriculture and the bureaucracy. Such a state of affairs, whose constraint bred of a multiplicity of factors has long blocked the region's social and economic development can certainly hold out some glimmer of hope for better times once the 5-year plan goes into effect. And so, for the first time in Congo's history, Sangha is a beehive of economic activity as the plan shifts into high gear.

Oil-Palm Country

Agriculture in the Sangha region tends predominantly to cacao because of the intensive manpower it requires and also because of the considerable cash return it earns for the grower.

While it is true that the introduction of cacao to the region has brought some shift away from other crops, such as coffee and rice, food crops are far from threatened. You find all kinds of garden truck here, including squash and taro, as well as bananas. The attraction of cacao-growing to the farmers here is readily explained. It practically guarantees a regular and specific cash income, far higher than the farmer can expect from food crops, which cannot currently be shipped to market under satisfactory conditions. The cacao-planter has a reputation of being wealthy by comparison with the ordinary farmer. The earnings of a working planter using no other labor outside of his family can run anywhere between 500,000 and 1 million CFA francs.

As a result of the diseases now widespread through most of the cacao plantations, however, most of them have shown staggering losses in recent market seasons. The various methods that have been tried to control the disease have thus far proved ineffectual.

For the region, oil palm is the only crop grown on an industrial scale with more or less modern equipment. Two major projects to be operated with the African Development Bank (ABD) (2,000 hectares) by SOCFINCO [expansion unknown]: Sangha Palm (10,000 hectares), which will be in production during the current 5-year period.

Work has already started at Sangha Palm. Right now they are working on the first section, which calls for planting 2,500 hectares to oil palms. The richness of the soil and suitable climate in Sangha offers enticing possibilities for growth in food production. The sorry state of roads in the region, however, makes regular shipments of food crops to Ouessou all but impossible. Besides, the urban market in the region is fairly limited. It offers no broad prospects for any increase in food-crop production during the middle term.

From Black Gold to Green Gold

Sangha's two timber operations do a respectable amount of business. Unfortunately, Sangha's production for industry is shipped, in toto, to Brazzaville and from there to foreign parts. There is not even a lumber depot at Ouessou.

Located 22 km outside Ouessou on Route II, the Congolese Timber Company of Ouessou (SCBO) is a mixed economy company engaged in forest management. Founded on 19 November 1981, its real activities got under way only 2 months ago. Capitalized at 2.5 billion, 15 percent from Congo, 45 percent from Agro Finance, and 4 percent from the yards in the Southwest, its mission is to harvest, process, and market the wood. To enable it to do this, it holds a lumbering permit for 1,131,600 hectares valid for 99 years.

Current annual output is assessed at 100,000 cubic meters. This year, however, forecasts say that only 80,000 cubic meters of standing timber will be harvested. For the time being, the company employs only 180 workers. Five years from now, though, when the company has settled into its stride, it plans to hire 250 more. Varieties harvested for export are sapelli, sipo, and ouegoue.

Enclavement and Living Conditions

The region is relatively isolated by comparison with its neighbors. The only ways of access or egress are the river and the airline. These are no trifling links, but they are nevertheless inadequate and unreliable. Even more marked, though, is the degree of isolation within the region itself. Most of the villages in the interior are practically cut off from Ouessou. Were it not for the establishment of the Sangha Transport Company, no shipper would dare undertake internal delivery, which means that the traffic is not confined solely to OOC trucks, government vehicles, National Marketing Office (OFNACOM) transport, and those belonging to the two major traders in Ouessou -- Tragos and SOCOSANGHA.

During the rainy season, this traffic is considerably slowed by the woeful state of the unimproved roads along the Ouessou-Sembe-Souanke route. The opposite holds true, as well: the port of Ngbala is accessible during the rainy season, but shuts down once the rains taper off and the waters of the Ngoko no longer rush down to raise its level.

All these access problems have left deep scars on the region. Delivery of manufactured products to Sangha is inadequate and irregular. Bare shelves in the markets, especially in the villages of the interior, are every day occurrences. The consequence of this is underutilization of their earnings by the planters, which drives them to making "status" purchases, not to mention drinking alcoholic beverages. All of this leads to heightened economic dependency on Gabon and Cameroon (the countries that border on the region).

5-Year Plan and Future of the Region

We shall shed false modesty and state emphatically that, since the plan got under way, life here has undergone some remarkable changes. More than 600 jobs have been created, and new infrastructures are on the way to completion. Among them we might cite: start of work on the 310-km Ouessou-Makoua-Owando road, which will cost 35 billion. As of now, the road runs 85 km out of Ouessou. Eight major engineering projects will be built along the route. One bridge has already been built at Owando, and another is under construction at Makoua.

We would also cite construction of a new Class B airport at Ouessou and the imminent start of work on expanding the port at Ouessou.

In the productive sector, the start of the palm plantation development project, the formation of mixed-economy companies for forest exploitation: the SCBO, the Arab-Libyan Company (SOLALYB), and the Algerian-Congolese Forestry Company (SFAC), and the remodeling of the Mokeko plant are all projects which will have direct impact on the lives of farming people here.

Start of operations at Hydro Congo's new depot has solved the problem of repeated breakdowns in the region's fuel supplies. For the first time, the pre-cooperative groups are eligible for farm credits totaling more than 30 million.

At the socio-cultural level, "Operation Health-Punch" has brought improvements in the region's principal health-care units: beds, surgical instruments, an ambulance. The only problem still to be solved is that of operating some surgical and radiographic tools because water and power failures are common. In addition, we must list the lack of specialists to operate this sophisticated equipment (anesthetists and radiologists in particular). The number of doctors here has risen from one in 1979 to 5 in 1982.

With the establishment of the regional investment fund, they have been able to invest more than 147 million francs CFA over those 5 years.

Owing to the prevalence of self-employment here, local authorities very quickly understood the need for intensifying the pre-cooperative movement throughout the region. That called for convincing a tradition-bound farm economy that coops are a workable idea. The cooperative movement is still unaggressive. The pre-cooperative movement is still at the mutual-aid stage. There are very few collectively worked fields. Thanks to the OOC, new acreage has been cleared and offered to coop groups.

Sangha's economic future is promising. When the projects already on the books are completed, the face of this region may be changed. That change will demand not only inputs of capital, but also, and above all, the efforts of all of the region's masses.

If it is to live up to the slogan over the Party lodge in Souanke: "Only Work Can Bring Our Region out of Enclavement," everybody must feel that he is personally responsible. Absenteeism and alcoholism (the twin plagues that beset the region) must be driven out. There must be a stronger work ethic if Ouessou ("The Sun" in its Pomo language) is to wear its laurels proudly as our cacao, timber, and oil-palm capital.

6182

CSO: 3419/807

HYDRO-CONGO DIRECTORS MEET, CALL FOR MORE ACCURATE FIGURES

Brazzaville MWETI in French No 994, 21 Jun 84 p 2

[Article by "JRM"]

[Text] The board of directors of the Hydro-Congo oil research and development company met last Wednesday in the conference room at the Brazzaville Chamber of Commerce offices; presiding was Comrade Auxence Ikonga, the company's general manager.

The board scrutinized the company's 1982 final report and its operating budget for 1984. The latter came to 16.8 billion francs CFA. Major spending cuts produced an increase of only 5 percent over the previous fiscal year. Gross profits of 4.5 billion CFA francs prompted imposition of a 2.3-billion-franc levy on the profits, plus amortization quotas of 1.2 billion francs CFA, which resulted in an in-house financing margin of 3.4 billion francs CFA.

The board noted that the bare-bones equipment budget came to 347 million as against 862 million in 1983.

The investment budget, estimated at 7.243 billion francs CFA or 2,555 million, is a response to the constraints of the 5-year plan. It was taken for granted that the commitments to build Hydro-Congo headquarters were part of previous commitments.

The equipment and investment budgets (7.59 billion CFA francs) will be financed with the help of 5.67 billion CFA francs from outside sources. The State's participation comes to 1,24 billion CFA, as compared with total outside financing of 650 million CFA.

The preliminary estimate for gross in-house financing for 1984, which gives 3.4 billion CFA as a probable level, makes it possible to finance the remaining investments for a total of 1.153 billion. The equipment budget of 347 million CFA to meet payments for part of previous commitments, or 1.9 billion CFA. Turnover, including taxes, comes to 67.2 billion in 1983. That 6.2-billion increase over the 1980 closing (10 percent) stemmed in part from an adjustment in selling prices of heating oil in May 1984 and of gasoline, which will occur in August 1984, along with the forecast increase in supplies.

The total comes to 4.9 billion from price increases and 1.3 billion for increased supplies.

Sales taxes showed a decline of 0.1 billion CFA, despite the increase in volume. This downward shift stems from the decline in imported petroleum products, especially asphalt and aviation fuel.

Estimated sales costs came to 48.9 billion CFA in 1984, as against 43.5 billion in expected in 1983 sales.

This 5.4-billion increase (12.41 percent) reflects a hike in the cost of access to product, in quantities of light fractions sold. and also a decline in quantities of heavy fractions sold.

Access costs for VORAF products is based on the assumption that CORAF's output will be at the technical minimum (585 tons).

The board chairman pointed out to the meeting that the company is going through trying times, due to endogenous as well as exogenous problems. There are, he said, several situations that are national in character that affect the company's management.

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CS0: 3419/807

WORKERS' GOOD WILL SEEN KEY TO LUMBER COMPANIES' SURVIVAL

Brazzaville MWETI in French No 996 26 Jun 84 p 3

[Interview with SNEB-Sonatrab CEO Rigobert Ngoulou, in Brazzaville, 21 Jun 84, conducted by Francois Lebegue]

[Text] The distinguished-looking man coming through the door of the PLM Hotel on Tuesday 21 June at 1745 hours is Rigobert Ngoulou. He is the president and general director of what is now the SNEB-SONATRAB Corporation. Balding, his sartorial elegance on the subdued side, his features are drawn, as well they might be after presiding over back-to-back administration sessions. We have been waiting here for him since 1500 hours, in anticipation of an interview that would not be given until 1900 hours.

Appointed to head the conglomerate in January, he now runs a corporation that does 2 billion worth of business in CFA francs. For almost 3 hours, he listened to and patiently replied to our questions.

MWETI: Comrade CEO, what, in your view, is the meaning of the new merger between the SNEB (National Forestry Company) and SONATRAB (National Wood Processing Company)?

NGOULOU: The SNEB-Sonatrab is a move by the enterprise conference at its meeting to single out these two specialized companies as candidates for reconsideration. Besides, both of them are part of that area of resources currently regarded as our "post-petroleum" assets. The underlying significance of this merger is explicitly spelled out in PL 54/83, enacted on 6 July 1983, establishing the pilot project for State-run corporations and, with it, the so-called merged enterprise. This move toward mergers stems from several synergistic factors, to wit:

- their products are complementary;
- they operate under the aegis of the same ministry;
- the mergers will obviate unlawful competition in the State sector of the economy, etc.

In other words, the decision was based on the finding that the two companies could complement one another, inasmuch as SNEB grows the timber, and SONATRAB processes it for sale.

This linkage has given rise to quite a few disturbances in the past, and it's time to put an end to them now.

In my view, the proper interpretation to be put upon this tandem arrangement which, far from being a merger, allows each company, while retaining its management autonomy, to present a united front to economic and financial difficulties.

MWETI: You referred to eliminating competition: we believe, however, that competition is an incentive to efficiency. Yet the OCB (Congolese Wood Products Office) would seem to be your competitor. What kind of relations do you really have with that outfit?

NGOULOU: SNEB-SONATRAB and the OCB are companies regulated by the same ministry. Their operations are so intimately related as to make it their destiny to work together, thereby presenting a united front in coping with the world-wide economic crisis. The fact remains, however, that the OCB enjoys a monopoly on timber production, whereas SNEB-SONATRAB's activities involve producing and processing wood which is then sold as veneer, which is a finished product: OCB sells its product as undressed timber.

MWETI: Comrade CEO, although you have been at the head of the group for only 6 months, could you tell us something about the company's overall health?

NGOULOU: As you already know, we have just completed two consecutive sessions of the board of directors, all of which were devoted to scrutiny of the management of these companies -- at least for fiscal 1983. On the face of the annual report and its bottom line, it is clear that whatever difficulties the company may be experiencing are not really crucial. Thanks to the remarkably complementary nature of their activities, these two regrouped companies can jointly face up to all the difficulties that might overwhelm either of them alone. The old saying that "you can't wash your face with one finger" applies quite cogently here.

MWETI: Even so, anyone can see that there are some rough patches at the financial level. Isn't that an indication of poor management?

NGOULOU: No. You have to look at the problems from two angles: internal, and outside. On the outside, we can identify, among other problems, the shortcomings of the CFCO (Congo-Ocean Railroad) in getting the timber out, increasingly slow pay from customers, cost increases for spare parts, and, above all, the age and obsolescence of tools and machinery.

On the inside, we find the lack of a revolving fund and general under-pricing. The liquidity level is so low as to be a source of concern, and it has substantially weakened the financial capacity of both companies. So, as you can see, this is not the unwelcome upshot of bad management.

MWETI: Our country is implementing its first socio-economic development plan. In what way are these two companies planning to contribute toward fulfilment of this gigantic undertaking?

NGOULOU: State-run enterprise is the one-way street to building an economically independent society. SNEB and SONATRAB fit together like two links in a chain stretched out to support the socio-economic development policy our country embarked upon several years ago when it launched its first 5-year plan.

To this end, the company I head has taken several measures to help bring this undertaking safely into port.

MWETI: Could you tell us something about them?

NGOULOU: A few days from now, SONATRAB will be starting work on a company project to deal with the bottlenecks that are delaying delivery of undressed timber to its processing plant. Equally noteworthy is the purchase of a large quantity of shop equipment which will strengthen and update the company's shop production capacity. This, I am convinced, will enable it to boost its output. Another project calls for constructing a big sawmill at Ngongo, in the Niari district.

MWETI: In spite of all its financial difficulties, how do you envisage the future of the conglomerate you now head? Does it look promising? Or are you worried about it?

NGOULOU: I look to the future of this enterprise with optimism, and I see the main thrust coming from the creation of jobs. I am counting on help from the Party and the government, but most of all, I am pinning my hopes on the good will of the workers.

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CSO: 3419/ 807

NORTHERN HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION PROGRESSING

Brazzaville MWETI in French No 997, 26 Jun 84 pp 1, 3

[Article by Basile Ayessa]

[Text] Congo's minister for public works, construction, and city planning, LtCol Benoit Moundele-Ngollo, took some of his closest advisers along with him on a tour of the northern highway construction sites; they spent 5 days (21-25 June) on the roads, checking on progress at the Epena-Impfondo-Dongou road site, the Owanda-Makoua-Ouessou road, the Ngo-Djambala-Lekana road, and the Lefini bridge. Surely this whirlwind inspection tour reflects the minister's awareness that when you make the decisions, you must also do the coordinating, the checking, and the making sure.

As they moved from one construction site to another, the talk was of terracing, revetments, or asphaltting. Wherever you look, the topographer, commanding tremendous machines that scrape, excavate, haul, or pour tons of concrete at a time, was the director for this mammoth spectacle.

When these great highway projects are completed, most of Congo's regions that, until now, have been practically cut off from the rest of the world, will be opened up.

Epena-Impfondo-Dongou

Once the asphalt is laid on this 134-kilometer road, it can offer this particularly difficult zone a workable road for getting its crops to market, an exploit that is an iffy proposition now because of the swampy, muddy ground.

A Brazilian company, Costructora Andrade Gutierrez, is working on this road. Work actually started in October 1983. Construction is expected to take 46 months, or nearly 4 years. The original contract calls for \$86,757,745.29, which is more than 34 billion CFA francs.

Working on the road are 368 foremen, 236 of them foreigners and 132 Congolese.

The impressions we gathered on the sites indicate that the 84-km Epena-Impfondo artery has already completed the earth-moving portion of the job as far as the 13-km mark, and that forest-clearing and brush-cutting crews have reported reaching the 28-km marker.

We would note that work has been interrupted on the Epena-Impfondo route since 10 May of this year, owing to very heavy rainfall and elevated soil humidity; estimates place resumption of work early in November 1984, when the dry season sets in.

Meanwhile, along the Impfondo-Dongou route (50 km in all), work is progressing at a steady pace. Grading and clearing is complete as far as the 15-km point, while the timber and brush-clearing crews are working right now outside the Nkoko village at the 20-km mark.

To put it briefly, work on the Epena-Impfondo-Dongou stretch has already completed more than 50 km. Work goes on around the clock, with two shifts: one shift works from 0600 to 1800, and the other takes over from 1800 hours to dawn.

We should not forget that the Brazilians have a lot of experience with construction over marshy ground. This Brazilian company has already pushed 830 km of roads into Amazonia. The problems it is encountering here are in no way exceptional, says planning engineer Ferreira, for the good and simple reason that Likouala has much the same physical characteristics as Amazonia.

Mr Ferreira explains that his people are taking advantage of high water in the river to get the necessary equipment and materials to Impfondo, because this region is quite remote from the major cities like Brazzaville, and from the port at Pointe-Noire. When the river is low, it is difficult to get supplies through, and such delays may slow up the work.

Ouesso-Makoua-Owanda (310 km)

Preliminary studies and surveys of this segment came up with cost estimates in 1981 of 35 billion CFA francs. The contract went to Ducler de Mirande, a French company. The plans call for completion of four major construction projects: the bridge over the Kouyou, 155 meters in length, is completed, and it will be officially opened to traffic next July. The bridge over the Likouala is already under construction, and a temporary access bridge for moving machinery is nearing completion. The pre-cast footings for the beams are now being readied, and there are high hopes that the bridge will be finished by January 1985 at the latest. The 5-span Makoua bridge will be 193.50 meters overall. The remaining projects are those for Mambili and Lengoue.

To complete the 80 km of highway, including grading and clearing required cutting 7,000,000 square kilometers of forest and brush.

Cost of the work completed as of 30 June 1984 comes to 14 billion CFA francs, before taxes.

As for the Obouya-Oyo section (40 km), the graders have already arrived at Obouya, and the concrete underlayment was already in place when we went there on 23 June 1.5 km from Obouya. Work there will be completed late in July 1984. You can already drive all the way from Brazzaville to Owando on "blacktop."

Ngo-Djambala-Lekana (165 km).

The asphalt crews have already reached the 96-km point on the Ngo-Djambala connector. The biggest obstacle on that stretch, the formidable Otsouankie Mountain, has already been mastered. Anybody driving that road today need hardly touch the steering-wheel. Putting the asphalt surface on this steep mountain road is a real victory. By the end of July, the asphalt will reach all the way to Djambala. There was a slight delay in the work because of bad weather (read: "relentless rains").

Elsewhere, the Djambala-Lekana artery (40 km) is moving right along. The graders have crossed the Mpama river. The Mpama bridge will be 30 meters long. In any case, by the end of 1984 this section will be completed. The sums already invested come to 16 billion CFA francs. The Razel Company is prime contractor on this section.

The Lefini Bridge (156 km)

The last construction site we toured was the Lefini Bridge, which is in the hands of Dragages Congo. Work started in June 1983. Overall costs of the project come to 1.9 billion CFA francs. It is a conventional bridge in reinforced concrete, the same type as the bridges over the Komo, the Alima, and the Nkeni. Probable date for completion: 15 August 1984.

As for the groundwork, all that remains to be done is the foundation and the revetment. Grading is completed.

In short, all the work is making fine headway at every site we saw. The extensive coverage devoted recently to these highways and the effect they are going to have on our economy has given all readers a chance to contemplate the full significance of this rescue from isolation. Lack of practicable roads is a severe handicap to national economic development. This kind of commitment to developing the rural world is simple justice. The farming countryside is the food lifeline to our towns and cities, especially in agricultural products.

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CS0: 3419/807

BRIEFS

SOVIET PROFESSORS FOR 1985--Following signature of codicil 5 to contract 55-189/05000, dated 27 March 1980, the government of the People's Republic of Congo, represented by the secretary-general of the Cooperation Ministry, Comrade Wilson Abel Ndessabeka, and Technoexport, a company owned by the government of the USSR, Comrade Sobolev. The two parties once again met yesterday morning in the conference room at the Cooperation Ministry to sign yet another codocil. This one calls for sending Soviet professors into the People's Republic of Congo to work in the high schools (both general and technical) and at Marien Ngouabi University during the 1984-1985 scholastic year. These professors cover a multiplicity of disciplines, including biology, chemistry, physics, social sciences, statistics, economics and planning, geology, philosophy, mathematics, electricity, industrial design, tractor and farm machinery repair, the Russian language, and manual sorghum-milling. There will be 118 of these visiting professors here. [Text] [Brazzaville MWETI in French No 995, 22 Jun 84 p 3] 6182

CSO: 3419/807

DEFENSE, SECURITY BUDGET FOR 1984

Paris AFRIQUE DEFENSE in French No 74, May 84 pp 53, 56

[Text] In a particularly austere economic and financial context, and with the new, 5-year development plan entering into effect this year, the state budget for 1984, balanced between receipts and expenditures, amounts to 29,364.242 million CFA francs, compared to 27,846.389 million CFA francs in 1982 and 572 billion CFA francs (16,759.5 million), labor (1,054.499 million CFA francs in 1983 (11,442.493 million CFA francs). The budget provides for 273.5 billion in investment expenditures.

National Defense

This appropriation will amount to 29,364,242,000 CFA francs, compared to a total of 27,846,389,000 CFA francs in 1983. It is broken down as follows: salaries, (16,759,500,000 CFA francs), labor (1,054,499,000), supplies and services (11,442,493,000 CFA francs), and contributions to other organizations (107,750 CFA francs).

Program authorizations under the heading of "Expenditures on Investments and Administrative Equipment" include 9.966 billion CFA francs under the 1984 general budget and an additional 1.048 billion CFA francs under an optional budget.

Salaries: the 16,759.5 million CFA francs appropriated are broken down as follows:

- Central Services: 1.89 billion CFA francs for 645 line items.
- National Gendarmerie: 4.4 billion CFA francs for 2,463 line items.
- Land and Naval Forces (FTN): 4.15 billion CFA francs for 2,679 line items.
- Gabonese Air Force (FAGA): 1.794 billion CFA francs for 772 line items.
- Fire Services: 425 million CFA francs for 165 line items.
- National Police Forces (FPN): 4.1 billion CFA francs for 1,946 line items, including 79 line items for public security.

Supplies and Services: 11,442.493 million CFA francs broken down as follows:

—**National Gendarmerie:** 1,933.5 million CFA francs, including 170 million for fuels, 280 million for specific supplies, and 215 million for the repair of vehicles.

—**Land Forces:** 1.895 billion CFA francs, including 170 million for fuel, 520 million for food, 100 million for the repair of vehicles, and 185 million for uniforms.

—**Navy:** 582.7 million CFA francs, including 40 million for fuel, 85 million for food, 56.6 million for rentals, 15 million for spare parts, 77 million for fuel for oceangoing and river ships, and 15 million for uniforms.

—**Air Force:** 4,148.4 million CFA francs, including 68.6 million for fuel (53 million for Libreville and 15.6 million for Mvengue), 325 million for food, 43 million for the repair of vehicles; 542.720 million for aviation fuel for Libreville and 422 million for aviation fuel for Mvengue; 340 million in expenditures for assistance; 360 million for maintenance of aircraft at Mvengue and 600 million for maintenance of aircraft at Libreville; 62.3 million for training program costs; and 33.5 million for uniforms.

—**Fire Services:** 235.474 million CFA francs, including 38 million for fuel and 35 million for the repair of vehicles.

—**National Police Forces:** 1,783.192 million CFA francs, including 190 million for uniforms.

Contributions: 107.75 million CFA francs, including 7 million for the International Military Sports Council and 225 million for the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL).

Investments and Administrative Equipment: 9.966 billion CFA francs, broken down as follows:

—**National Gendarmerie:** 677 million CFA francs, including 200 million for repairs, 180 million for the acquisition of special vehicles, 75 million for radio transmission equipment; 27 million for office equipment, 40 million for furniture for housing, 40 million for other machinery and equipment, 75 million for military equipment, and 40 million for civil engineering equipment.

—**Directorate General of Health Services:** 44 million CFA francs have been earmarked for the following: special vehicles (20 million), office equipment and furniture (5 million), equipment for housing (4 million), and medical equipment (15 million).

—**Counterinsurgency:** 69 million CFA francs have been earmarked, 20 million of which is for special vehicles, 25 million for office equipment and furniture, 12 million for equipment for housing, and 12 million for other machinery and equipment.

—**Directorate General of Documentation:** out of a total of 115 million CFA francs 20 million are earmarked for repair work, 35 million for special vehicles, 15

million for radio equipment, 10 million for office equipment and furniture, 20 million for equipment for housing, and 15 million for other machinery and equipment.

—Directorate General of Research: 105 million CFA francs have been earmarked, of which 35 million are for special vehicles, 20 million for radio equipment, 20 million for office equipment and furniture, 20 million for equipment for housing, and 10 million for other military equipment.

—Land and Naval Forces: 215 million CFA francs have been earmarked, including 50 million for repair work and 165 million for the procurement of special vehicles.

—Navy: Out of a total of 92 million CFA francs 25 million are earmarked for special vehicles, 10 million for radio equipment, 2 million for office equipment and furniture, 5 million for equipment for housing, and 50 million for other machines and equipment.

—Fire Services: the 20 million CFA francs earmarked concern the purchase of special vehicles (15 million) and radio equipment (5 million).

—Air Force: 160 million CFA francs have been earmarked, covering: repair work (20 million), the purchase of special vehicles (40 million), office equipment and furniture (20 million), equipment for housing (35 million), the acquisition of other machinery and equipment (20 million), and the refurbishing of housing with particular equipment. Elsewhere the Air Force has been provided with additional budgetary line items for the overhaul of aircraft: 540 million CFA francs for a C-130 transport, 100 million for a Puma helicopter, 100 million for a Nord-262, 100 million for an EMB-110 and 111, and 190 million for other aircraft.

—National Police Forces: 345 million CFA francs have been earmarked, broken down as follows: special vehicles (145 million), radio equipment (25 million), office equipment and furniture (30 million), equipment for housing (45 million), and other machinery and equipment (100 million).

—Office of the Minister: 16 million CFA francs have been earmarked, including 4 million for the procurement of a vehicle.

—Secretariat General: 40 million CFA francs have been earmarked, including 10 million for the acquisition of vehicles.

—Inspectorate General of the Armed Forces: 10 million CFA francs have been earmarked, 5 million of which are for vehicles.

—Liaison officers: 5 million CFA francs.

—Office of the Commander in Chief of the Gabonese Forces: 23 million CFA francs have been earmarked, including 4 million for the purchase of vehicles.

—Credits to be divided among various services: 7.000 billion CFA francs.

Presidential Guard

The Presidential Guard received 5.693 billion CFA francs, compared to 5.161 billion in 1983. This total is broken down into salaries (3.9 billion), labor (25 million), and supplies and services (1.768 billion).

Program authorizations under the heading of "Expenditures on Investments and Administrative Equipment" amount to 1.954 billion CFA francs from the 1984 general budget and 239 million from an optional, supplementary budget.

Salaries: 3.9 billion CFA francs, with indemnities, for 1,476 budget line items.

Labor: 25 million CFA francs for operational expenses.

Supplies and Services: 1.768 billion CFA francs have been earmarked, of which 190 million are for water and electricity, 70 million are for telephone services, 11 million for office furnishings, 40 million for administrative overhead, 45 million for vehicle repair, 98 million for fuel, 139 million for specific equipment (including 9 million for the Presidential Air Group), 420 million for food, 264 million for transportation costs, and 491 for particular purposes. These particular purposes break down to 133 million for the armored squadron (33 million for fuel for the armored units and 100 million for the maintenance of equipment), 220 million for the Presidential Air Group (130 million for aviation fuel and 90 million for aircraft maintenance), and 138 million for other purposes of the Presidential Guard, properly speaking (70 million for rentals, 30 million for uniforms, 22 million for medicine and chemical products, and 16 million for other expenditures).

Expenditures on Investments and Administrative Equipment: 1.954 billion CFA francs were earmarked, of which 20 million are for the purchase of light vehicles, 219 million for the overhaul of aircraft (125 million for the Puma VIP helicopter, 40 million for the Embraer EMB-110P1 aircraft, 30 million for the Fouga aircraft, and 24 million for the T-6, AD-4, and T-34C1 aircraft), 50 million for repair work, 30 million for military construction of the Presidential Air Group, 250 million for military materiel and equipment (including 150 million for the Presidential Air Group), 30 million for office equipment and furniture, 90 million for equipment for housing, 15 million for other machinery and equipment of the Presidential Air Group, and 1.25 billion to be divided among the different services, in new allocations.

Public Security

This ministry has received 157.5 million CFA francs for 1984, compared to 99.6 million in 1983, broken down into personnel (31 million) and goods and services (126.5 million).

Program authorizations under the heading of "Expenditures on Investments and Administrative Equipment" amount to 168 million.

—Personnel: 31 million CFA francs (for 25 budgeted positions, including 11 military), of which 22 are on a daily paid basis, 4 with their social security payments assumed by the state, while 5 are on an expenses only basis.

—Goods and Services: 126.5 million CFA francs, including 4 million for office furnishings, 23 million for fuel, 20 million for specified equipment, 10 million for telephone service, and 60 million for particular purposes (including 40 million for food).

—Investments and Administrative Services: 168 million CFA francs, including 8 million for special vehicles, 120 million for military equipment, 10 million for office equipment and furniture, 10 million for other machines and equipment, and 20 million for radio transmission equipment.

Prison Security Services

This budget for 1,035.690 million CFA francs, compared with 917,790,000 in 1983, concerns: salaries (632.5 million), labor (4.6 million), and goods and services (398.59 million).

Program authorizations for expenditures on investments and administrative equipment amount to 10 million CFA francs for the purchase of ambulances.

—Salaries: 632.5 million for 269 budgeted positions, 153 of which are for military personnel who control the central prisons in Libreville, Port-Gentil, Lambarene, Mouila, Koulamoutou, Makokou, Oyem, Tchibanga, and Franceville.

—Goods and Services: 398.59 million CFA francs, including 304.5 million for food and 35.3 million for specific furnishings.

Highway Safety

The appropriations approved amount to 59.005 million CFA francs for 1984, compared to 43.33 million for 1983. They cover salaries (30.5 million), labor (4.905 million), and goods and services (23.6 million).

Program authorizations for expenditures on investments and administrative equipment amount to 18 million CFA francs.

—Salaries: 30.5 million CFA francs for 11 budgeted positions.

—Goods and Services: 23.6 million CFA francs, including 2 million for vehicle repair, 10 million for transportation charges, 3.1 million for fuel, and 3.2 million for specific furnishings.

—Investments and Administrative Equipment: 18 million CFA francs, including 2.5 million for the purchase of a light vehicle, 10 million for the purchase of other machinery and equipment, and 3.5 million for telephone equipment.

Joint State Expenditures

In this section there is an appropriation of 1 billion CFA francs for the provision of new engines for the DC-8 presidential jet and 800 million for its operational costs.

LIVE CHURCH BROADCASTS BANNED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 23 Jul 84 p 12

[Text]

NAIROBI. — The state-run Voice of Kenya Radio yesterday ended more than a decade of live church broadcasts because a Presbyterian Minister allegedly mixed religion with politics earlier this month, staff members said.

"There will be no more live broadcasting of services," said Mr Leonard Mumbo, a VOK announcer. Instead, services including sermons will be recorded and then reviewed by radio officials before broadcast on Sunday evenings in this predominantly Christian country.

The government-ordered ban followed a July 8 sermon, heard nationally, in which the public was urged to pray for former Constitutional Affairs Minister, Mr Charles Njonjo, the subject of a six-month inquiry into alleged unconstitu-

tional conduct, Kenyan newspapers said.

The ruling party newspaper, Kenya Times, reported that Parliament was investigating the sermon by the Rev Timothy Murere Njoya of the Presbyterian church of East Africa, after earlier mistakenly naming another minister.

The pulpit speech generated sharp Parliamentary debate and angry newspaper editorials because of the attention the media has focused on the Njonjo inquiry.

Although yesterday roundly condemned by former colleagues, Mr Njonjo had been considered one of Kenya's most powerful men having served 18 years as Attorney-General before entering politics.

CSO: 3400/2070

JAPANESE FOOD ASSISTANCE REPORT

Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 27 Jun 84 pp 1, 3

[Text] The visit of the Japanese vice-minister to the Great Island gave concrete evidence during the course of the day--Monday 25 June--that Japanese-Madagascan cooperation is in good health. At the end of the morning, in fact, two new cooperation agreements were signed at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Japanese side was represented by Vice-Minister Kitigawa, assisted by His Excellency Mr Furusawa, the Japanese ambassador to Madagascar. On the Madagascan side, there was the minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Bemananjara, assisted by Ministers Rakotomavo and Ramelison.

Two New Agreements

Our Japanese friends are offering us their support once again in the form of various kinds of aid. The first consists of food assistance" a gift of 370 million yen for the purchase of flour in the United States. The second aims to help us increase our food production by promoting rice cultivation. It amounts to 300 million yen (the yen is worth 2.4 FMG). This money will be used to purchase insecticides, fungicides, crop treatment materiel (sprays), laboratory materiel, farm machinery and transport vehicles intended for the Ministry of Agricultural Production and Agrarian Reform.

Two Meaningful Speeches

In his statement of gratitude, Minister Bemananjara emphasized that this is the first time the country has welcomed a high Japanese official. He reiterated his greetings of welcome and his wishes for a pleasant visit to the "messenger" of the Japanese people and Government. He recalled that Japanese aid makes itself felt in the important sectors of the economy and consists of the purchase of foodstuffs and of nonrepayable aid and gifts for the promotion of rice cultivation.

In his turn, Vice Minister Kitagawa recalled that Japanese-Madagascan relations date from the first visit to Japan of President Didier Ratsiraka as minister of foreign affairs in 1973 and that they have solidified in several domains. Since that time, Japanese aid to our country has risen to 35 billion yen. It has brought us among other things "supplies of sizable quantities of rice, fertilizers, pesticides and farm machinery for

food production, the construction of a hydroelectric dam, the installation of a microwave telecommunications network, the construction of the Technical Training Center for Animal Husbandry in the north, the development of underground water supplies in the south, the promotion of professional fishing, the strengthening of the transportation network in the capital and also many other economic, technological and cultural kinds of aid. At the same time, Japan has assisted us in spreading out our debts. But he assured us that his country will continue to pursue its aid to the Great Island.

8117

CSO: 3419/820

WEST GERMAN ECONOMIC AID REPORTED

Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 5 Jul 84 pp 1, 6

[Article by A.R.: "FRG: A Dossier of 8.7 Billion Granted to Madagascar for 1984-1985"]

[Text] The work of the third intergovernmental Germano-Madagascan sessions came to a close yesterday at the end of the afternoon, with the signing of the official statements of these negotiations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Madagascan side was represented by Mr Rodolphe Rambahiniarison, the director of Bilateral Relations (MAE [expansion unknown]) and the West German side by Dr Wolf Preuss, the director-in-chief of the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation.

In the light of the two addresses given at the end of this ceremony, Germano-Madagascan cooperation emerged from this inter-governmental session at Antananarivo much greater in scope than before. The only proof needed can be found in the following passage from the discourse of Minister Ampy Portos (Acting Director of Foreign Affairs), in whose words the two partners had, by the end of these three days of concerted efforts, reaffirmed "their steadfast intention to concretize the goals established and their willingness to intensify bilateral cooperation and diversify the domains in which it is exercised, while not neglecting the pursuit of the projects in progress, in most of which the West German contribution was substantially increased."

The Dossier

The total dossier of the West German contribution for the years 1984 and 1985 thus amounts to a little more than 8,750 billion FMG, which is an appreciable increase, for the last dossier over a period of four years amounted to 22 billion FMG. Out of this sum of 8,750 billion, it is noteworthy that nearly half, or 4,084 billion, is in nonrepayable subsidies. Among the latter let us single out an impressive gesture on the part of West Germany, which comes on top of the help already given us during recent months; we refer to the sum of 157,000,000 FMG in emergency aid intended for repairing the damage caused by Cyclone "Kamisy" in the faritany of Mahajanga.

This was a brand of caring which particularly touched Minister Ampy Portos, in his capacity as president of the CNS [expansion unknown], for he was

concerned, from the outset of his official meetings with the West German delegation, to bring its members up to date on the serious problems which the cyclone season brings to Madagascar.

The contribution of West Germany in this domain does not stop with such a specific action. Bonn declared itself prepared to "expand" the project of modernizing the equipment of the National Weather Service, through mid-1987, in which, moreover, the West German role has already been established during recent years and which for this period--1984 and 1985--will put at the disposal of the Madagascan Government a supplementary nonrepayable credit of close to 388 million FMG.

Self-Sufficiency

Another large component of these agreements signed yesterday by Antananarivo and Bonn has a bearing, in other respects, on one aspect of our present policy of development to which the government has always given an important place (self-sufficiency in food provision) and which the West German side fully endorsed.

As proof, take the pursuit of the action by the Federal Government in favor of the FIFABE [expansion unknown] in the fertile plain of Marovoay, destined, as many know, to become the second rice granary of Madagascar. We are familiar with all the determination of President Didier Ratsiaraka to win the "rice battle." To support the efforts of the Madagascan partners, these new Germano-Madagascan agreements signed yesterday underline the West German contribution, namely a financial increase totaling 777 million FMG, non-repayable. The West German contribution in this project so vital to Madagascar (Since rice is the principal foodstuff of Madagascans, imports during recent years have caused a substantial drain of foreign currency!) thus amounts to nearly seven billion FMG, of which 1,764 million comes under nonrepayable subsidies [as published].

Other Sectors

The different sectors affected by these agreements also have a bearing on the completion of the Ihosy-Sakaraha Road (RN [National High] -7), the integrated rural development in the Port-Berge region, the promotion of animal production, the struggle against bilharzia, the encouragement of sports activities within the framework of the schools, the promotion of the activities of the National Center for Oceanographic Research, the granting of scholarships (27), a beginning of cooperation between the two partners in the domain of health, and of course, "aid in kind."

As far as SECREN [Naval Construction and Repair Company] is concerned, or the promotion of the small- and medium-sized businesses or a number of other problems, the two teams of negotiators took leave of one another yesterday, with the mutual agreement to bring these matters up before the fourth intergovernmental session to be held by the two countries this time in Bonn in 1985.

In short, all is well that ends well. Dr Wolf Preuss yesterday reiterated the "total availability of the West German partners to support the development efforts of the RDM [Democratic Republic of Madagascar]." Mr Amply Portos also asked him to transmit to the Federal Government "the expression of our sincere gratitude for the praiseworthy efforts it has made, despite the real economic constraints that now prevail."

The Kreditanstalt

Let us take note of the fact that, in the context of West German financial cooperation, the loans of the KFW [expansion unknown] have been drafted with a 50-year repayment plan and with 10 years of deferred payments built in. They have been granted at a rate of interest of 0.75 percent. All in all, most advantageous conditions. Its director, Mr Lange, took pleasure, yesterday evening, at the conclusion of an enjoyable reception given by the Madagascan Government, in conveying to us his "satisfaction in making a contribution to Madagascar."

8117

CSO: 3419/820

AID REPORTEDLY COMPARATIVELY SUCCESSFUL

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 19 Jul 84 p 10

[Article by James Kanu: "Surrounded by Poverty, Aid in Malawi Pays Off"]

[Text]

FOR the second year running farmers in Malawi are expecting a bumper harvest.

Regular rainfall, a fertile soil, incentives for farmers and substantial international aid have achieved this at a time when most African countries are having to depend almost entirely on help from multilateral agencies. Mountainous Malawi is surrounded by countries currently suffering from drought.

One group of farmers that will be celebrating again this year is the 150 000-strong farming community at Dowa West, 50km north of Lilongwe, Malawi's capital.

The farmers have shown that, given the right kind of help, they can rapidly increase production.

Their farm incomes are below the national average of about R350, but for two years they have had good harvests. Their success seems to depend largely on a R14-million project jointly launched three years ago by the Malawian Government and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

The project was devised to help small farmers increase their output of maize, groundnuts and tobacco by providing credit facilities for them to buy basic agricultural inputs such as fertilisers, seeds

and ox-carts.

It also encouraged farmers to learn improved farming methods and supported research into the possible use of new crops such as soya beans, sunflower, fruit trees and vegetables.

The project included the improvement of livestock and meat production through the introduction of veterinary services, the building of health centres, boreholes for fresh water supplies, construction of feeder roads and the introduction of literacy classes for adults.

It is still too early to say whether the project is a complete success, but results indicate that in barely two years it is beginning to make a significant impact on the farmers' lives. Some feel that they could be self-sufficient in the coming years.

Mr Geleson Kaundama, secretary of the Msonjora Farmers' Club at Dowa says:

"We do not want to be receiving aid for ever. All we want from those who have been helping us in the past years is another gentle push, maybe for two to three years and I am sure we would then be able to stand on our legs."

Farmers' clubs play an important role in Malawi's rural development. They represent the farmers'

spontaneous participation in rural development projects. They have an average membership of about 30.

Many were formed in the mid-70s by subsistence farmers with land holdings of two to three hectares to encourage co-operation among themselves in agricultural operations such as strip cropping and the purchase of agricultural farm inputs such as fertilisers and ox-carts.

A major constraint on their operations in the past was their inability to raise enough credit from the traditional banking institutions. Now, with the launching of the project, clubs seem to have acquired fresh impetus, particularly among the women.

Farm instructor Ms Joyce Mbewe says: "In the past no one gave women credit because they said women could not repay their debts. But without credit women were not in a position to buy even the small quantities of fertilisers to increase food production.

"The little they produced was therefore hardly enough for consumption. Now with credit facilities which women get through this project they get better yields."

Mr Mbalame Mtalimanja, chairman of the Mphunju Farmers Club, whose 2.4ha of land under maize and groundnuts used to earn him a gross yearly income of less than R500 before the project started, now claims to have earned R715 in 1982-83. This was mainly because of increased production through the use of fertilisers he bought with credit from the

project.

Mr Mtalimanja says he now has enough money left to start a small poultry farm after putting aside R64.52 for credit repayments, spending R26 on transport for his produce and R5 on his children's school fees.

Mr Nicholas Sichinga, programme manager for the Ksungu Agricultural Division in which the Dowa project is situated, says farmers' clubs have a repayment record of almost 100% in the past two years. Clubs ensure that members repay their loans in time, since failure to do so could make it difficult for a defaulting club to get more credits.

The total credits extended to farmers in the area rose from R107 856 in 1981-82 to R112 810 in 1982-83.

Reliable figures for total crop production are difficult to get, but the yields to farmers who belong to clubs that receive credits and advice from project officers are estimated at 400kg a hectare of maize more than the yields of farmers who are not club members.

The rapid increase in maize production at the expense of other crops was also partly caused by the more than 50% increase of producer prices for maize in the past two years.

As producer prices announced in 1983 have substantially reduced the price differentials between maize and other crops, it is possible that crops other than maize will be cultivated in the coming years. Maize production is still likely to be proportionately higher than that of other crops.

REORGANIZATION OF MAPUTO REACHES URBAN DISTRICTS

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 11 Jul 84 p 1

[Text] The mobilization of the entities in the city of Maputo will embark upon a new phase, with the reorganization of the urban districts, according to an announcement made yesterday at a meeting with the brigades involved in the process, which was led by the first secretary of the City Committee and member of the Politburo, Maj-Gen Jorge Rebelo. At the meeting, which was intended to make an evaluation of the work performed to date, it was also disclosed that the phase for reorganization of the district mobilizing groups is nearly completed.

During the meeting, in which scores of party and state cadres from both the central entities and those of the city participated, a report from the City Committee was read, in which it was noted that the work must be finished by 15 July in the 89 districts included in this phase of the process, with the exception of six. However, as was pointed out on this occasion by Maj-Gen Jorge Rebelo, only time will make it possible to assess the quality of the work performed and to observe the extent to which the reorganization carried out now will in fact be translated into concrete progress for the lives of the city's population.

Noteworthy among the proposals submitted which received unanimous approval was the one suggesting that the brigades continue for several months, to monitor the work done by the local and rank and file entities that have now been restructured, giving them the necessary backup.

A Popular Process

With the reorganization of the district entities virtually completed, identical work will now be started on the level of the city's eight urban districts. This phase is also very important because, as Jorge Rebelo commented, "During recent weeks we have noticed that the mobilizing groups are directing various problems to the urban districts, but the latter are not offering follow-up, or else are confining themselves to operating as mail boxes, passing the matters along to the City Committee."

That high-ranking official also stressed that, "The restructuring of the districts is therefore essential for the consolidation of the gains already

made." He remarked that, during this phase, an even far greater stringency is required in the selection of cadres, because these are individuals who will be left with the responsibility for directing, both politically and administratively, vast areas of the city, each of which will include many districts and many thousands of residents.

The reorganization of the urban districts, which is scheduled to begin on 21 July, will culminate an intensely popular and democratic process, whereby basic entities which, in most instances, had been inactive will be revitalized. This reorganization affords prospects for solving many concrete problems which the population is confronting in its everyday existence. The aforementioned process, which is being headed by the City Committee, now covers the capital's 2,770 neighborhoods (not including the areas of Inhaca and Catembe), the entities of which have been revitalized. For this purpose, brigades were created, including cadres from the central and city entities of both the party and the state.

Those same brigades subsequently started an identical process in connection with the mobilizing groups in the districts, which were also reorganized. In both instances, there was a concern to ensure widespread participation by the people, which made it possible to isolate and neutralize many infiltrated elements whose action was interfering with the work of the rank and file entities.

It will also be the same brigades that will now be directing the process of restructuring the urban districts, under the direct guidance of the City Committee's Secretariat.

In the context of this organizational offensive, there have emerged as priorities the intensification of the people's vigilance against any type of enemy action (from physical infiltration to rumors), the battle against alienation and criminal behavior and the citizens' more active participation in solving their own problems.

We Shall Combat Speculation With Garden Produce

There must be greater participation by the rank and file entities in combating speculation with garden produce. This was the appeal issued by the head of that branch of industry's management unit at the meeting held yesterday, under the guidance of the city's first secretary with the brigades involved in the reorganization of the mobilizing groups in the capital.

That official commented that, at the present time, the city is supplied with a volume of garden produce (particularly kale, tomatoes and cabbage) which is among the largest ever; and therefore there is no reason for a shortage of these products to exist, much less speculation with them. What is happening is that a portion of that volume is being acquired by monopolists, who are attempting to take advantage of the situation so as to make easy, unlawful profits.

It is also important to dynamize the participation of the consumer cooperatives in the purchase and distribution of garden produce, because that is the best way of ensuring that the products will reach their users at the legal price.

EFRIPEL HOPES TO FULFILL SHRIMP EXPORT GOAL

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 12 Jul 84 p 3

[Text] The Mozambican-Japanese enterprise, EFRIPEL, in Quelimane, which is engaged in fishing activity, intends to fulfill the shrimp exporting plan this year, according to a disclosure made to our correspondent by the general director of that enterprise, Domingos Carimo Junior.

Owing to the excellent weather conditions during the first half of this year, EFRIPEL recorded high rates in its shrimp catch, with each boat attaining a daily yield of 866 kilograms on the average, as compared with the 500 which was the daily average last year.

According to that enterprise's general director, during the first 6 months of this year the enterprise was left with two boats out of operation, as a result of damage, which caused a loss of 28 tons over a period of nearly a month.

Domingos Carimo Junior remarked: "Although we have achieved good results during the first 6 months of this year, the best year for us was 1981, when we succeeded in exceeding the plan by almost 20 percent."

EFRIPEL's exporting plan is staggered in 3-month intervals, which means that if the system is not efficient, this causes problems in the cold-storage capacity, which is slightly over 400 tons. There have been instances wherein boats were halted so that the shrimp would not be exposed to the sun, while waiting for its processing in cold-storage facilities. That official concluded by saying: "If we really fulfill the export plan, the cold-storage facility has the capacity for processing the shrimp."

However, while the results of the shrimp catch were encouraging during the past few months, on the other hand the fish catch capacity declined; which is explained by the fact that this catch appears to be only subordinate to the shrimp catching activity, and not the enterprise's principal activity.

This being the case, EFRIPEL achieved only an estimated volume of 654 tons of fish, which is only 66 percent of its plan. It is expected to improve that index once the shrimp catch starts to decline.

2909

CSO: 3442/440

NEW RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO INTENSIFY WORK

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 12 Jul 84 p 8

[Text] The Ministry of Agriculture's Rural Development Department [DDR] will start a program to improve agricultural and livestock techniques and the internal operation of the agricultural cooperatives. This entity also intends to improve the accounting and management of the agricultural cooperatives and associations, as well as the methods and techniques of rural extension and communication. These activities are associated with the rural development and cooperative organization that are under way in the country.

The preparation of these programs by the Rural Development Department is aimed essentially at backing the minor projects which, according to recommendations devised by the party and state, must be based on available local resources.

Information provided to NOTICIAS by a source in the Ministry of Agriculture notes that the Rural Development Department's programs are aimed at a better understanding of the development process from the standpoint of cooperative organization in the rural areas and increased capacity to stimulate creative initiative for making better use of the local resources.

Fundamental activities will be carried out to improve agricultural and livestock techniques, methods and techniques for work organization and the organization and operation of the district agrarian economy.

We were told: "These programs, which are very important of themselves, are designed to back the population's initiatives for minor agricultural projects which will ensure production both for its own consumption and for sale."

Minor Projects: What Interpretation?

The maximum utilization of the resources and experience that the country possesses is the path that will make it possible to solve the material problems confronting it at present. This task entails a mobilization of local initiative, and the execution of minor projects that will help to raise production, and consequently to increase the supply of goods.

From this standpoint, the Rural Development Department will back agricultural production (with a technical monitoring of the campaign), including the

preparation of land, nurseries, treatment, hoeing, irrigation, harvesting, removal, marketing and storage.

As we were informed, other sub-programs will be given backing by the DDR, such as the introduction and (or) intensification of the use of animal hauling, the recovery or construction of small irrigation systems, the diversification of agricultural and livestock production, improvement of the population's social conditions, reforestation and fruit growing.

They told us: "To back the management and accounting of the cooperatives, associations and other agricultural organizations, it is our intention to contribute to the proper operation of the social organs, accounting records and work force, as well as work organization and activity programming."

An Example From Infulene

At the "The Struggle Continues" Production Center in Infulene, where 48 persons, including 25 women, are working on the collective farm, there have been serious problems relating to agricultural production. This center is directed by the OMM [Organization of Mozambique Women] National Secretariat.

What actually happened was that, after a few years, the workers at the "The Struggle Continues" Production Center were only producing items for their own consumption. They were given moral support without doubt, but that did not suffice. Their production was not properly organized.

Owing to all these problems (they had some backing, but not enough, or poorly used), some of the peasant women had to visit the Rural Development Department to request assistance.

Goals of the DDR

The principal goals of the Rural Development Department are to set up a rural extension system in the country for the cooperative and family sectors, by expanding and consolidating the rural development centers, the provincial agrarian training centers and a National Agrarian Training Center. The DDR was created in May of this year, based on a pooling of the experience from the former GODCA [Department for Organization and Development of Agrarian Cooperatives] and the MONAP projects to back the peasant sector (CO-1, CRED and FO-1).

Another task of the DDR is to back the provincial governments, through the Provincial Agricultural Directorates, in devising and executing rural development programs, and creating and consolidating the provincial agrarian training centers and the rural development centers.

For the third phase of the MONAP program (1985-89), the Scandinavian countries will finance a National Rural Development Program based on a system comprised of the National Agrarian Training Center, six provincial agrarian training centers and 16 rural development centers in the districts, to back the peasant sector.

One of the DDR's tasks during this half-year is to prepare conditions for the starting, in January 1985, of the third phase of the MONAP project (recruitment of technicians, and preparation of orders for materials and equipment). There are already rural development centers in Maputo, Gaza, Tete, Nampula and Cabo Delgado Provinces. The creation of another center in Niassa Province is being studied.

2909

CSO: 3442/440

SWEDISH AGENCY FINANCES REPAIR OF ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 13 Jul 84 p 8

[Text] Financing from the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), amounting to 10 million kronor, or approximately 50,000 contos, will be used to rehabilitate ELECTROMOC's factory for the repair of electrical motor coils. Our reporter learned from sources representing that entity and the ELECTROMOC General Directorate that the project, which is already being executed, will allow for that unit to start activities in new facilities this coming October.

The new facilities are located in Machava, next to the ECOME enterprise. At present work is being done on the site to make improvements relating to the civil construction.

A Swedish technician is in the nation's capital to receive and identify equipment, as well as to direct the installation of the materials, and he will be joined by two or three more.

Improving Technology the Main Objective

As ELECTROMOC's general director explained, to repair the various types of motors arriving there, the enterprise has resorted to services of companies in the neighboring countries, specifically, South Africa and Zimbabwe; which resulted in the expenditure of \$500,000 per year.

The Swedish financing will in this way make it possible, on the one hand, to save foreign exchange for the country and, on the other, to improve the technology and, ultimately, the capacity of the factory to perform more extensive work.

Based on the rehabilitation project that has been devised, after all the work has been completed the factory will have a capacity to repair a total of 4,800 machines per year.

The present facilities do not meet the requirements of the users of ELECTROMOC's services, because, in addition to being small-sized, the equipment installed in it does not allow for the repair of larger-sized motors.

ELECTROMOC and BEVI Materialize Project

After the granting of the financing, ELECTROMOC started contacting a Swedish company specializing in the field, known as BEVI, for the purpose of determining the mechanisms that would make it possible to materialize the project.

In this connection, Jan Robbers of SIDA explains that this firm will guarantee technical assistance for the equipment. He adds: "The equipment is also acquired through this company."

Moreover, it is known that the amount made available by SIDA will be used for the purchase of various materials necessary for the factory's work.

Training of Cadres

The project, which must be executed by next year, may be extended longer in the event that this is warranted; also calling for the training of cadres both locally and by sending Mozambican technicians for an apprenticeship in Sweden.

According to ELECTROMOC's general director, the goal to be attained in this respect is to make it possible, in the future, for Mozambicans to be the ones operating the equipment that is being installed in the new facilities. He cited the fact that this equipment is modern, requiring of its operators a thorough understanding of its operation.

From this standpoint, an effort is being made to select the workers who will be going to that Scandinavian country to attend apprenticeship courses or even for specialization.

2909

CSO: 3442/440

VARIOUS COUNTRIES FINANCE PROJECTS TO COMBAT FOOD CRISIS

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 19 Jul 84 p 7

[Text] Several countries which have been rendering technical assistance to Mozambique have recently concentrated their action associated with the implementation of agricultural programs to reinforce food production, including Italy, the Netherlands and others. Owing to the serious drought which has caused our country heavy damage, it was announced that the Kingdom of the Netherlands intends to back Mozambique's programs for rural development and those for the family and private sectors.

During a recent visit to our country made by the Kingdom of the Netherlands' minister of development and cooperation, Mrs E. Schoo, it was announced that 5,000 hoes and 35 tons of peanuts would be arriving in Maputo within 2 or 3 weeks, to aid the agricultural cooperatives in the capital's green zones.

As Minister Schoo remarked, the development of agriculture, particularly food production, is extremely necessary in Africa at present, because the per capita food production has been declining for many years; hence, many African countries have depended on imported food.

To back the execution of minor projects, the Netherlands, through its embassy, has given assistance to the green zone agricultural cooperatives for programs involving small-scale irrigation, seed purchases and other activities.

At the beginning of the talks between the delegations from Mozambique and Italy on Monday, our country's minister of mineral resources, Abdul Magid Osman, emphasized that the next phase of the cooperation between the two countries will also have to concentrate on backing for food production and programs to help increase exports of Mozambican products.

Rural Development

Based on the experience from the former GODCA [Department for Organization and Development of Agrarian Cooperatives] and the MONAP projects to back the peasant sector, the Rural Development Department (DDR) was recently created in the Ministry of Agriculture, for the purpose of setting up a rural extension system in the country, supporting the cooperative and family sectors.

In the programs to back agricultural production, this department will attempt to render technical assistance to the agricultural campaigns for the following activities:

Land preparation, nurseries, treatment, hoeing, irrigation, harvesting, removal, marketing and storage.

As we were told recently by a technician affiliated with the Rural Development Department, DDR's main contribution will be given to the peasants in cooperatives, peasants in associations and peasants in the family sector. The chief idea will be to improve and expand the food production capacity, while at the same time creating conditions for the increase and training of cadres, based upon the growing needs for rural development.

Food: Leading Problem To Be Solved

The natural disasters that have beset the country (the effects of which still persist) have been one of the causes forcing Mozambique to confront serious problems in the food area.

A document recently prepared by the Ministry of Home Trade noted that the food situation in our country was serious. This is due to the problems caused by the drought and by tropical depression "Domoina" (which devastated southern Mozambique).

Serious problems are being faced in the provinces of Gaza, Inhambane and Tete, as a result of the drought; and, at the same time, an intensive migratory movement has occurred in Tete and to a slight extent in Manica Province.

Hence, it is important to hasten the programs to reinforce food production, primarily through minor projects which, as was decided at the party's Fourth Congress, must be carried out with the available resources.

2909

CSO: 3442/440

READER WARNS CROCKER NOT TO UNDERESTIMATE USSR

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 16 Jul 84 p 4

[Letter to editor by "Realist," (Pretoria): "Challenge USSR Says 'Realist'"]

[Text]

Sir,

In a recent question and answer session with the Press, Dr Chester Crocker expressed the view that it was an illusion to suggest that South Africa faced a total onslaught.

I have the greatest respect for Dr Crocker's sincere attempts to negotiate peaceful solutions to our regional problems, but he appears to be misinformed on the nature and extent of the threat posed to the RSA.

His own CIA has stated in a recent report that the Soviets now threaten SWA.

The psychological war against the RSA, mounted and directed by the USSR, has been rising in tempo and ferocity since the Nkomati Accord was signed.

The Soviet armed and manipulated terrorist organisations, ANC and Swapo, have done their best to extend their

murderous campaigns, although the vigilance and courage of our Security Forces have blunted their attacks.

Ships and aircraft of the Warsaw Pact countries continue to deliver sizeable quantities of weapons of destruction to Marxist-aligned states in our region.

The Cuban proxy forces in the area have not reduced their strength on their involvement, in fact quite the reverse.

I would suggest to Dr Crocker that it is foolhardy to underestimate the deliberate intent of the USSR to destabilise Southern Africa as part of its overall strategy.

There will be no lasting peace and stability in this part of the world if these issues are side-stepped.

Long term solutions are achievable only by resolutely challenging and thwarting the Soviet influence in our sub-continent.

CSO: 3400/2073

GOVERNMENT'S HANDLING OF TRIALS ALIENATES SUPPORTERS

London AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL in English 6 Jun 84 pp 1-2

[Article: "Nigeria: Alienation"]

[Text]

The government of Maj.Gen. **Muhammed Buhari** has displayed an addiction to secrecy in its handling of the trials of the ex-state governors, the prosecution of journalists and rumours relating to the exchange of new banknotes to avoid illegal blackmarket trading outside the country. It has had the effect of uniting almost all the country's political groups against his military administration. The supporters of ex-president **Shehu Shagari's National Party of Nigeria (NPN)** cannot forgive him for the coup, no matter what happens to them.

As we have pointed out (AC Vol 25 No 11), the three military governors whose case was the first to be brought before one of the Special Military Tribunals were members of the *Unity Party of Nigeria (UPN)*, the main opposition group. On 31 May one of the three, ex-governor **Olabisi Onabanjo** of Ogun, was found guilty of channelling 10% of a *Buoygues Nigeria Ltd* contract into UPN funds (AC Vol 25 No 11). He was accordingly sentenced to 22 years' imprisonment. His two co-defendants, ex-governors **Michael Ajasin** of Ondo State and **Bola Ige** of Oyo State, were acquitted, but as the verdict is subject to confirmation by the Supreme Military Council (SMC), they were not immediately released.

As only the judgment was made public by tribunal chairman Brig. **Paul Ufuoma Omu**, one can only surmise why Onabanjo alone was convicted. Some of the money concerned is said to have been transported in a vehicle registered in his name. The boycott of the proceedings by the Bar Association meant that defence lawyers were not present, the only defendant to enter a plea (not guilty) was Ajasin. The other two refused to plead and the tribunal entered not guilty pleas on their behalf. Asked if he had anything to say in mitigation of his sentence, Onabanjo pointed out that as the decree stood it did not allow for mitigation. But "if evidence had been given in public, it may have been different . . . if I had been represented by a counsel it would have been different".

Onabanjo and his co-defendants appeared before the special military tribunal, Lagos zone, established under Decree 3 (Recovery of Public Property) signed on 18 March and hastily made retroactive by Decree 13, after charges against the former UPN governors were already laid. Decree No. 3 and its amendments is the most draconian of the Buhari government's measures. Dealing with the investigation of assets of public officials suspected of corruption, they pass minimum 21-year jail terms against which there is no appeal, although the verdicts are subject to confirmation by the Supreme Military Council. The use of this process against the leadership of the UPN, now outlawed like all the other

parties, has caused considerable resentment. After all, the "proceeds" available to office holders in Shagari's NPN and the Federal Government were vastly more lucrative; a feeling which was reinforced when other Decree No. 3 special tribunals opened their hearings with leaders from other opposition groups.

In Kaduna, seven former politicians appeared last week, including three prominent *People's Redemption Party* (PRP) leaders - two former Kano state governors, Abubakar Rimi (1979-1983) and Barkin Zuwo (August-December 1983). Accused with them was Abdu Dawakin Tofa, another senior PRP man. As the hearings are once more in camera, details are hard to come by, but we understand that Rimi was charged with receiving 153,000 Naira corruptly for PRP funds, the sum being 10% of a road contract. Barkin Zuwo is alleged to have received N100,000 for his party from a Bulgarian contractor carrying out rural electrification work.

In Enugu, ex-governor Jim Nwobodo of the *Nigerian People's Party* (NPP), another opposition group, is currently appearing. He is to be joined by ex-governor Melford Okilu of Rivers State, the first NPN figure to appear under Decree No. 3. But Okilu has been a very controversial NPN politician, whose nomination as gubernatorial candidate last year was strongly challenged from within his own party, causing a split in Rivers State which even the NPN head office in Lagos could not breach. He is understood to be charged with operating two foreign bank accounts, the larger of which, in London, is said to have contained close to \$2m. It appears that Okilu has agreed to testify against another former MPN governor Aper Aku of Benue State, who has been charged with illegal currency dealing before a different tribunal (see below).

The Ibadan Zone special tribunal may become an itinerant court because of its concern for the security of witnesses as well as the accused, according to its chairman, Brig. C.B. Ndiomu. It started hearings on 30 May, but the identity of the accused has been

kept more strictly secret than elsewhere. All Decree No.3 tribunals are headed by senior military officers and sit in camera, but public reaction against this procedure has been so negative that attempts are clearly being made to bring less controversial charges against many of the other politicians awaiting trial. In particular, use is being made of the Exchange Control (Anti-Sabotage) Decree No 7, signed on 5 April 1984 - but which encompasses offences committed from 1 October 1979, when the Shagari administration took over from the last military government. Although there is no appeal from the verdicts passed, the tribunals are headed by civilian lawyers and the minimum sentence is a comparatively modest 5-year jail term (plus fines). The tribunal sits most of the time in public and allows the press access.

When Aper Aku appeared before this Decree No.7 tribunal, his neck was encased in plaster - but there is no information on how his injury occurred. Another detainee to be tried under No.7 was ex-Governor Sam Mbakwe of Imo State, an NPP leader, who was charged with causing some foreign currency to be sold on the black market - a transaction valued at some N 500,000.

Denting the image

Few Nigerians believe that politicians like Aper Aku and Mbakwe could not be charged under Decree 3; it is assumed that some of Buhari's colleagues were taken aback by the unfavourable response from influential quarters to the secret tribunals with their inflexible policy on sentencing. Minimum sentences of 21 years create sympathy for the accused, particularly where the charges involve arranging for business contributions to party funds which have long been regarded as common practice.

These criticisms come not only from the wider public but also from within army ranks, where there are fears that the decrees designed to eradicate malpractices are damaging the image of the military government. Brig. Tunde Idiagbon, for instance, has been travelling up and down the country, appealing to officers not to succumb to the arguments of those Nigerians who were trying to sabotage the efforts of the Buhari administration. In Maiduguri, for instance, he spoke outright of attempts to use junior officers to destabilise the country. He also pleads with the military to be less high-handed in its dealing with the public. In Zaria he declared that the loyalty demanded of soldiers was "absolute" - there have been rumblings of discontent at Jaji. The army chief of staff, Maj.Gen. Ibrahim Babangida has been on a similar morale-raising tour during which he told key units that their duty was to protect Nigeria against internal as well as external aggression.

That relations between the public and the military have plunged after only five months of Buhari rule can largely be blamed on Decree No. 4, the Public Officers' (Protection Against False Accusations) Decree, signed on 29 March. This is aimed mainly at newspapers and other media, which will as a result be effectively prevented from exposing the injustices of the present administration. The tribunal set up under this decree will sit in public, starting this week, and will pass minimum sentences of two years on journalists and other writers, and heavy fines on corporate bodies, i.e. newspaper proprietors. As a result of the resentment this has created, the government's anti-corruption drive has not received the media support it deserved, and the press - which was initially enthusiastic about the new military dispensation - now practises a large degree of self-censorship and is at best sullen in its comment about policies.

In the fertile ground for rumours which has thus been created, speculative stories are often floated by the regime's enemies. For instance, during the recent currency exchange it was reported that one person arrived at Muhammed Murtala airport with 35 suitcases which were not searched, despite the rigorous scrutiny of other luggage at the time, to prevent old nairas being brought in from abroad in exchange for new notes. A senior military officer is alleged to have escorted the 35 suitcases out of the airport. Last week Idiagbon announced that the National Security Organization (NSO) had been ordered to investigate the matter.

Currency exchange is reported to be going on even now, although the deadline has long expired. Agents of those in a position to carry on the exchange in Lagos are said to be combing European black market centres, buying up old nairas at rock-bottom prices. The government's political opponents are busy compiling dossiers about these matters "for future use".

Perhaps because of its political isolation, the Supreme Military Council is known to have made approaches to some of the exiles against whom extradition proceedings are contemplated, asking for their support. One of these, former Senate president, **Joseph Wayas**, is said to have accepted the offer. He has opened an American-based office in New Jersey. One "mediator", **Alhaji Kumasi** from Kano, is said to have tried to woo **Umaru Dikko**, only to be rebuffed. Dikko has cooled down on his "jihad" campaign against the SMC, but is unalterably opposed to military rule.

Meanwhile, in an ominous development, open-air preaching has been banned again in at least two states, Kaduna and Bauchi. In the case of Bauchi, the authorities openly mentioned the possibility of

renewed Maitatsine-type riots (AC Vol 25 No 6) particularly during Ramadan, which started last week. The fact that the Maitatsine ethos always had political connotations, and the composition of the sect's membership, to a large extent foreign Africans, have given rise to official concern that such a situation might be exploited by Nigeria's well-heeled exiles ●

CS0: 3400/2086

EXPULSION OF ILLEGAL ALIENS SUSPENDED

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 8 Jun 84 pp 1, 13

[Article by Ike Unegbu]

[Text]

MINISTER of Internal Affairs, Brigadier Mohammed Magoro, has said the expulsion of aliens without valid documents from Nigeria has been suspended because of the decision of the Federal Military Government to close our borders indefinitely.

He told newsmen yesterday that because of closure of the borders, any illegal alien arrested now would have to be fed and accommodated at the expense of the government.

The minister said the government could not afford wasteful expenditure. Therefore, it was better to allow the illegal aliens to work and cater for themselves until the borders were re-opened.

Brigadier Magoro said the borders were not closed solely for the recent change of our currency but that it would be closed from time to time, whenever necessary in the interest of the nation.

He said Nigeria had borne the brunt of foreign exchange expenditure in the West African sub-region because essential commodities imported into the country from our scarce foreign exchange were smuggled to neighbouring countries.

"The borders had to be closed because we felt that in our present financial predicament, a stop must be put to the practice," he declared.

He said the Federal Military Government had ordered the temporary opening of Nigeria-Niger border "strictly for the

passage of relief materials to Chad only".

He said this was sequel to last month's agreement between the Head of State, Major-General Muhammadu Buhari, and the Chadian leader, Hissene Habre during his visit to Nigeria.

Commenting on the embargo placed on the issuance of passports, Brigadier Magoro said it was necessary because many Nigerians held multiple passports, aliens had Nigerian passports, Nigerian passport had been forged and that many booklets of passports had been stolen.

On the national identity card project, the Minister revealed that a thorough investigation was being conducted to ascertain why it was necessary to terminate an earlier contract awarded by the last military administration.

Ex-President Shehu Shagari's government terminated the contract and re-awarded it to another firm at an inflated price he said.

The Chief of Air Staff, Air Vice-Marshal Ibrahim Alfa, also said that the continued closure of Nigeria's borders had saved the country's foodstuffs by 65 per cent.

He told newsmen at Ilorin, Kwara State, recently that the savings were possible because the border closure had checked the smuggling of foodstuffs to neighbouring countries.

GOVERNMENT REPRESSION OF PRESS REVIEWED

East Burnham ARABIA: THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW in English No 35, Jul 84
pp 66-67

[Text]

● In our report from Nigeria last March, *Arabia* predicted that the freedom of the press under military rule might become a contentious issue. The shortcomings of the vocal Nigerian press were outlined but we argued that the press is now the only voice the Nigerians have in running their affairs, given the absence of an elected parliament.

This is no longer so. The impatience of the regime with the press, which was evident from the start, did not take long to boil over. In mid-April the so-called Public Officers (Protection against False Accusations) Decree was issued by the federal military government of General Mohammadu Buhari, making Nigeria's press laws some of the most restrictive in the world.

According to the decree, any journalist found guilty of publishing "false reports, rumours or statements" will be liable to up to two years' imprisonment without the option of a fine. Corporation bodies are liable to a fine of not less than N10,000 and virtually every employee of the company — including secretaries, sub-editors and designers — will be presumed guilty of the "offence", unless they can prove their innocence. This "innocence" implies active resistance to the alleged offence since the employee has to prove that "the offence has been committed without his consent or connivance and that he has exercised such diligence to prevent the commission of the offence."

Confiscation of the equipment of the offending publication is provided for in the decree and the publication can be suspended from circulation, the order of sus-

pension to run automatically for a year "unless sooner revoked or extended." Licences to radio or television stations can also be revoked if they offend against the regulations.

The decree is intended to prohibit "any publication or broadcast which is false and which states that the public officer has in any manner been engaged in corrupt practices or has in any manner corruptly enriched himself or any other;" or any reports "calculated to bring ridicule to government or any of its officials."

The local press was quick to criticise the new decree. The government-owned *Daily Times* promptly asked for it to be reviewed, claiming that it is liable to "create a lot of inhibition to the efficient practice of journalism in the country."

Almost all other publications followed suit — there has been a continuous and concerted campaign against the clampdown. Influential figures in the world of publishing such as the flamboyant Chief Abiola, chairman of the Concord group of newspapers, joined in a chorus of condemnation; and the National Union of Journalists has even taken the matter to court. With a government that needs only pen and paper to change any law, however, this is futile — and serves to reveal the dark side of a political change that almost everybody had welcomed.

Already two journalists from the much respected independent daily, *The Guardian*, are under arrest for publishing a report on the organisation of Nigerian diplomatic missions abroad and the selection of ambassadors, including the impending appointment of eight ex-army officers.

The government did not deny any of the facts in the report and the only criticism Foreign Minister Dr Ibrahim Gambari levelled against it was that it was premature to speak of the appointment of ambassadors before the ratification of their nomination by the states concerned. Gambari also defended the appointments, claiming that all of the military nominees for the top diplomatic jobs were adequately qualified.

This incident indicates the possible misuse of the decree, since the two journalists are technically in breach of the law for speaking of "appointments" when they should have said "nominations."

A special tribunal has been set up to try offenders in accordance with the decree. This is presided over by a high court judge and has three members from each branch of the armed forces, with a top civil servant as secretary. It will be a very busy court unless the extremely vocal Nigerian press transforms itself drastically. There is no appeal against the judgments of the tribunal and the decree, now better known as Decree 4, stipulates that trial under it should not automatically exempt the offender from being tried for the same offence under any other law — and repeated publication of the same report is considered a separate offence.

No previous government has tried to curb press freedom in independent Nigeria, which has had 13 years of military rule in its 24-year existence. The move by the military government against press freedom reflects the increasing difficulties it is facing in carrying out its reform programme. The euphoria of the first days of the anti-corruption drive are now over and the new government has ironically found it necessary to protect itself against allegations of corruption.

The economy has been very slow to respond to attempted reform and in April the government tried that standard device of all revolutionaries — changing the cur-

rency in order to expunge "concealed funds." It is not yet known how successful this has been, but the procedure was rather chaotic. Negotiations with the IMF and other international creditors have not so far satisfied the Nigerians, and the emergency austerity budget announced in May included such drastic measures as the reintroduction of tuition fees in the universities, a measure which has already drawn widespread protest and a warning of action from the students. The military in turn threatened tough measures.

In these harsh circumstances, the military wanted to enlist the acknowledged influence of the media in such programmes as the much trumpeted "war against indiscipline." At the same time they were keen to neutralise the powerful press. The minister responsible for the press, Captain Samson Omeruah, exhorted the press in a speech shortly after the "false accusations" decree was announced to "play a role in instilling virtuous qualities in the minds of Nigerians." Addressing a seminar in Lagos held to discuss the role of the media in the campaign against indiscipline, he affirmed that the media "played a major role in the shaping of the destiny of governments. They can either destroy every noble ideal for which the government stands or help build its reputation to inestimable heights."

It must be the second option that the military government in Lagos is now bargaining for. It now seems determined to manipulate the media to enhance its reputation, now that economic reforms have proved impossible — a classic manoeuvre followed by many a failed reformer. It is still hoped that the new government, which initially enjoyed much popularity, and with objectives that coincided with the aspirations of the people, will not find it necessary to lapse into an outright dictatorship that will be constantly obliged to defend itself against its people by becoming increasingly more repressive.

SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN FOOD STAPLES PLANNED

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 5 Jun 84 p 9

[Article by Nkem Agetua]

[Text]

FEDERAL Military Government is determined to achieve self-sufficiency in basic food staples by 1985, Head of State, Major-General Muhammadu Buhari, has said.

General Buhari at an interview with an American magazine known as "Journal of Defence and Diplomacy", said that measures to achieve this objective had already been mapped out.

This he said, included a review of the country's land laws so as to make more land available for agricultural purposes.

General Buhari also enumerated other measures which included the supply to farmers of fertilizer and other inputs in sufficient quantities, the production of agricultural raw materials for local industries and development and control of water resources for human and agricultural purposes.

This, he added, would call for the construction of dams, boreholes, irrigation works and farm settlements.

General Buhari said that government would adopt an aggressive approach to rural development, channel more funds into agriculture and guarantee credit to farmers, as well as provide modern storage and preservation techniques in order to ensure that the country was self-reliant in food by 1985.

On what he considered the kind of government best suited for the country, General Buhari said that it was premature to say so

now.

"Our pre-occupation for now is to solve the grave political and economic problems created by the past civilian administration", he said.

At the appropriate time, however, he would suggest "some form of hybrid democratic system, having the African traditional system as an element which will provide all sections of society adequate participation in running the government of African nations".

The head of state added that any wholesale transplant of any system "as we Nigerians seem to have done in the first and second experiment with democracy" was bound to fail.

The head of state in answer to a question on the economic plans of the administration, said that nationalization of multinational corporations was out of it.

He said that the new military administration had already mapped out a 10-point political and economic programme and nationalization does not feature in it.

"I do not consider nationalization as a viable instrument in revamping the economy" adding that Nigeria was a mixed economy.

General Buhari said that government would only invest in strategic and highly capital intensive projects where the private sector was unwilling to invest.

The head of state, however, indicted multinational corpora-

tions in the country for not carrying out research activities which would help revamp the nation's economy.

He said that the multinational corporations had often concentrated research and development efforts in their home bases.

The head of state pointed out that because of this conservative policy on technology transfer, technical problems arising in their corporations in developing countries were often referred to research centres in Europe, America or Japan.

General Buhari said that in this way, there was hardly any urge for innovation in the developing countries and local manpower was usually held as mere operatives.

He assured that the Federal Military Government would initiate policies to reverse the trend by making it possible for government and multinational corporations to co-operate more closely.

CSO: 3400/2086

RICE ARRIVES FROM THAILAND

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 8 Jun 84 p 16

[Text]

A VESSEL loaded with 40,000 tonnes of rice from Thailand has arrived in Lagos, the acting Commercial Counsellor of the Embassy of Thailand in Lagos, told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) on Wednesday.

The consignment, made up of 20,000 tonnes of long grain and 20,000 tonnes of parboiled rice, is the first batch of the 400,000 tonnes of rice Nigeria is importing from Thailand under a trade agreement between the two countries.

The agreement, signed two months ago by the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Dr. Mahmud Tukur and his Thai counterpart, Mr. Kosol Krairiksh, provides for the purchase of 400,000 tonnes of rice at 80.2 million Naira.

A breakdown of the figure shows that the commodity is being bought at 10.30 Naira per 50-kg bag for which the defunct presidential task force paid 20.10 Naira from the same source.

The counsellor told NAN that with the first consignment arriving this month, the delivery of the total import of 400,000 tonnes would be completed by March 1985.

The trade agreement is the first government-to-government trade accord between Nigeria and Thailand.

Trade figures made available to NAN, showed that a total of 25,250 tonnes of rice was imported from Thailand in the first quarter of 1984 at a cost of 6.753 million dollars (about ₦5.055 million).

EXPERTS PREDICT GOOD HARVEST

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 9 Jun 84 pp 1, 13

[Text] **EXPERTS say rainfall in Borno, Gongola, Plateau, Sokoto, Niger, Kano, Benue and Kaduna states, hard hit by drought last year, promises good harvest.**

Borno State Commissioner for Agriculture and Natural Resources, Malam Mahmud Lawan, told our reporter *Fatima Abdu* that rainfall in the state picked up this year and he hoped it would continue to improve.

Rainfall data showed that unlike last year when the rains did not start until mid-May, the first rain this year came in mid-April. Maiduguri area recorded its first rain of 3.8 millimetres, on April 23.

So far, the rainfall seems established, with rain falling on the average of six-day interval.

The acting Chief Agricultural Officer, Mr. Yamta B. Mshelia also expected a better harvest this year.

He said the early rainfall, its good distribution and frequency were good conditions for crop growth.

Mr. Mshelia noted that in the southern parts of Borno State, e.g. Bui, Uba and Askira where planting began in late April becoming more intense in May, maize was already at the flowering stage.

He said last year, some farmers had to plant more than once because the first seeds germinated but died for lack of water.

Mr. Mshelia cautioned that the second and third weeks of June had a history of dry spells. During this period, farmers could do nothing but wait to see what would happen to their crops.

So far, the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources had received and distributed 8,500 tonnes of fertilizers from its allocation of 25,725 tonnes by the Federal Government.

The ministry has also distributed seven tonnes of millet, 10 tonnes of sorghum, 20 tonnes of maize and 0.05 tonnes of cowpea.

The Chief Extension Officer of Borno Accelerated Development Area Programme, Malam Abdullahi K. Zaifada, however showed concern for the northernmost part of the state, particularly Nguru, Kukawa, Geidam and Gashua where no substantial rain had yet been recorded.

He stated that last year, this area was badly hit by drought, adding that this year the situation might only be marginally better.

Gongola State too looks forward to better crop yields this year, Abu Tapidi reports.

The state chief agricultural officer, Mr. Samuel Agabus said that the rains came much earlier this year than was the case in the previous year.

The distribution of improved seeds, fertilizers, tractors and other inputs had also been timely, he said. As a result of the increased agricultural activities in the state, the demand for inputs had increased.

He said, as usual, the rains came earlier in the southern parts of the state with the northern parts receiving rain much later. He said the distribution had been fairly uniform. The fear of last year's drought and the launching of a "Go Back to Land" campaign had encouraged farmers to farm this year, he said.

Mr. Agabus announced that about 450 metric tonnes of assorted deers had been distributed to farmers but groundnuts were yet to be processed for distribution.

At the beginning of the cropping season, he said, 540 tractors with complete implements were serviced and made ready for hiring to farmers.

About 27,000 metric tonnes of fertilizers were sent to 47 different selling centres where farmers could go and buy the commodity at subsidized rates.

In Plateau State, a lot of rain has been recorded so far this year and a bumper harvest is expected.

Reports from the Ministry of Agriculture showed that rain fell

early in March and the rainfall was uniformly distributed throughout the state. Farmers therefore planned maize, guineacorn and millet.

In Sokoto State, the General Manager of the government-owned Farmers Agricultural Supply Company, Alhaji Muhammad Tukur Maru, believed that the current farming season would be the best ever.

He said many people had turned to farming, adding that the state government had taken delivery of about 40 per cent of the 84,000 tonnes of fertilizers allocated by the Federal Government.

In addition, Amcot Ploughs have been acquired for sale to farmers at subsidised prices, he said.

A report from our Niger State editor, MIKE REIS spoke of intensive agricultural activity. Planting began much earlier than was the case last year because of early rains.

According to meteorological report, 67.6 millimetres of rainfall was recorded by the end of April this year compared to 12.2 millimetres for the same month last year.

The state Chief Agricultural Officer, Malam Abdullahi Sarki, said crops like maize and groundnuts which were planted early were doing fine and would be

harvested in the next few months.

He stated that the government had acquired over 13,000 tonnes of fertilizers for distribution to local government areas. He said improved seeds had also been made available to farmers.

From Kano, YUSUF OZI USMAN said farmers were hopeful for a better harvest this year because of early rains.

The farmers started planting at the start of the rains on April 26, this year, and the crops, most of them grains, had grown tremendously.

The state chief agricultural and planting officer, Alhaji Sale Kazaure, said the planting of crops was in full swing.

The officer in-charge of the meteorological department of Ahmadu Bello University Agricultural Research in Kano, Mr. B. K. Kaigama and his assistant, Mr. A. M. Fowler, both expressed optimism about an abundant agricultural yield this year.

In Kaduna State, the Director of the Ahmadu Bello University Institute for Agricultural Extension and Research Liaison Service in Zaria, Alhaji Imrana Yazid, spoke of good harvests in the northern states because of early rainfall.

Officials of the Federal Meteorological Department in Kaduna told our reporter SHITU SAUDE that the rains came early this year and the distribution pattern had been fairly uniform.

They stated that good harvest could be expected.

The governor of the state, Air Commodore Usman Mu'azu said at the launching of Operation to Back to the Land at Daura that the government was to distribute 114,000 tonnes of fertilizers to farmers.

Air Commodore Mu'azu said the government would also provide tractors and pesticides to farmers and give necessary assistance to farmers in drought affected areas of the state.

In Benue State, Kola King reported rains had been in good quantity and distribution was fair. Crops planted early are doing reasonably well even though farmers were handicapped by problems arising from the currency exchange.

State Commissioner for Agriculture, Mr. Amile Gyve

said the problem was serious because everywhere he went during his tour of local government areas, farmers complained of lack of money.

Mr. Gyve said the government had evolved a system of seed multiplication in which a farmer was selected in each farming district and given foundation seed to multiply.

He said 1,000 farmers would receive 8,000 bags of fertilizer and in each village, the government had made three million Naira worth of fertilizers available to farmers.

Rainfall figures at the meteorological department, Makurdi showed a marked increase in rainfall this year compared with the two previous years.

Rainfall recorded in March 1982 was 18.5 millimetres, April 31.5 millimetres and May 57.6 millimetres. The total rainfall was 107.6 millimetres.

The 1983 figures are March 1.2 millimetres, April 2.6 millimetres, May 1909 millimetres. The total was 194.7 millimetres.

Available figures this year is as follows: - March 51.8 millimetres, April 116.3 millimetres and 157.8 millimetres till May 20. The total rainfall so far is 325.9 millimetres.

REORGANIZATION OF MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE REPORTED

Kaduna THE DEMOCRAT WEEKLY in English 10 Jun 84 p 1

[Article by Frank Aigbogun]

[Text]

LAGOS — In another week or two, the on-going re-organisation at the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources will be put to rest.

The exercise at the largest of all federal ministries has so far been far-reaching and quiet but initial hints of the move came on April 18 in a letter to all directors and heads of units from Mr. N.O. Popoola, the ministry's permanent secretary.

He intimated them that the action was intended to streamline the structure of the ministry and bring it under three broad operational categories of:-

- * policy advice, data collection, plan formulation, monitoring and co-ordination,
- * programme implementation, and
- * quality control, purchasing, storage and marketing.

The letter mentioned the Nigerian Agricultural Development Bank as one of its creations that has not performed satisfactorily.

One conspicuous result of the reorganisation is the merger of the former Federal Departments of Agriculture, FDA and Rural

Development, FDRD.

Mr. Awoyemi, who was director at the agricultural department, now heads the enlarged department while his counterpart at the rural development, Chief Q.F.J. Oyaide has been appointed General Manager of the Benin Owena River Basin and Rural Development Authority.

Another result of the exercise is the rechristening of the River Basin Authorities which now have the added function of overseeing rural development projects and other agricultural programmes within the area they cover.

Although the streamlining continues, papers are already being sent out to divisional heads under the new structure, telling them where they now stand and putting the anxiety of staff to rest.

On May 15, the director of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development sent out a nine-page document describing his department's new look. He listed divisions or units either existing or new ones, which may be maintained under the new dispensation.

News that the exercise will

be completed soon came from Chief Oyaida who last Saturday at Ibadan assured staff of the Federal Agricultural Co-ordinating Unit (FACU) that their organisation will be encouraged in the new era.

He told *The Democrat Weekly* that he had already assumed duties at his new posting in Benin which he described as a "notorious organisation."

The new military government has several times hammered on its resolve to stem the downward tide of agriculture whose contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) dropped from 36 per cent in 1970 to less than 22 per cent in 1981.

Government measures are also aimed at sending up Nigeria's domestic food production growth rate of a mere 1.8 per cent to meet the food demand growth rate now estimated at a run-away 3.5 per cent a year.

If the plans go well, a new era of hope may open for the about 60% of the nation's population who are directly supported by agriculture which now contributes only 5 per cent to our total export earnings.

CS0: 3400/2086

GOOD REPORTS ON URANIUM EXPLORATION IN GOMBE

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 8 Jun 84 p 16

[Text]

PRELIMINARY reports on the exploration of uranium in Gombe, Bauchi State, are favourable, the Minister of Mines, Power and Steel, Alhaji Rilwanu Lukman, said in Lagos on Tuesday.

Speaking in an interview with the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) Alhaji Rilwanu said the exploration was to

determine the extent and nature of the uranium deposits in the area.

He said the Nigerian Uranium Mining Company (NUMC) was executing the exploratory work and that the search for the metal covered parts of Gongola, Borno and Bauchi states.

The Nigerian Mining Corporation holds 60 per cent of the equity in NUMC and the French firm, Minatom, 40 per cent.

Uranium is a dense, hard, radio-active nickel-white metal which can be used as fuel by nuclear reactors principally for the generation of electricity.

It is believed that by the end of this century demand for the basic raw material, uranium oxide, would have reached 165,000 tonnes, up from the 23,707 tonnes used in 1970.

On the tin rationalisation policy of the government, the minister said the Federal Government had approved the scheme and that the Nigerian Mining Corporation, in collaboration with the five major tin-mining firms, had worked out a time-table for the implementation.

Tin rationalisation is a scheme which is expected to enhance the productivity of the firms as well as raise production and ensure the better use of equipment.

Under the scheme, the five major firms will pool their resources and harmonise their processes for the improvement of the tin industry.

The firms are Amalgamated Tin Mines of Nigeria, Gold and Base Metals (Nig). Ltd., Ex-

lands Nigeria Ltd. Kaduna Producers and Bisichi Jantar.

On Nigeria's membership of the Association of Tin Producing Countries (ATPC) whose headquarters is in Bangkok, Thailand, Alhaji Rilwanu said, "it will not help us to isolate ourselves from the International Tin Council or the ATPC".

"If the tin industries prosper as a result of these two bodies, Nigerian will benefit and, being member, we can influence the two organisations," he said.

The International Tin Council is a body consisting of producers and consumers. It regulates the world tin market, while the ATPC is made up of only producers, and includes Thailand, Malaysia, Nigeria, Zaire and Indonesia.

KATSINA STEEL MILL TEMPORARILY CLOSED

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 9 Jun 84 p 16

[Article by Abdulhamid Babatunde]

[Text]

KATSINA Rolling Mill has been temporarily closed down for annual maintenance and to allow for foundation work on a 12-million Naira diversification programme, General Manager, Alhaji Mahmud Kanti Bello, disclosed in his office on Thursday.

The diversification programme will involve the introduction of two strand rolling system which would double the production of small diameter rods and a wire drawing plant.

Others are the production of 5.5 millimetre diameter rods and the introduction of mechanised loading of products on trucks.

Alhaji Mahmud said foundation work had already begun on the two strand rolling network, while initial construction of the wire-drawing plant had also

started in the factory, adding that many equipment for the project had started to arrive.

The general manager emphasised that the purpose of introducing the two strand rolling was to be able to satisfy the demand for the 12 millimetre rods by construction industry, adding that the proposed wire-drawing plant would facilitate the production of mills and fencing.

Most of the projects are expected to be completed by early next year; he added.

Meanwhile, the mill is expected to re-open next month, after which the company also expects to have sufficient billets to go into full production.

The general manager stressed that nothing was being lost by the temporary closure because there was always the need for annual maintenance.

CS0: 3400/2086

BRIEFS

GONGOLA FUEL SUPPLY--THE supply of petroleum products to Gongola State has been constant since the creation of the state in 1976 but the demand for them has risen sharply. A New Nigerian investigation showed that despite having 15 filling stations in Jimeta-Yola, the state capital suffers scarcity of fuel, kerosene and lubricants. Between January and May this year, most of the filling stations received allocations of 675,000 litres to 2.2 million litres of fuel only. Some of the stations got the allocations twice while others got it six times during the period. According to the distributors, each of the filling stations was supposed to receive about two million litres of petrol weekly to sustain their services. They claimed that despite persistent request for the increase in the allocations to the state, no positive measures had been taken to alleviate the situation. [By Abubakar Tapidi] [Excerpt] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 9 Jun 84 p 16]

CSO: 3400/2086

POSSIBILITIES OF FURTHER CABINET RESHUFFLE DISCUSSED

London AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL in English Vol 25 No 13, 20 Jun 84 pp 4-5

[Article: "Sierra Leone: Gloves Off"]

[Text]

The resignation last month of second vice-president **Christian Kamara-Taylor** and the apparently declining health of President **Siaka Stevens** has quickened the pace of the power-struggle in Freetown.

Kamara-Taylor, aged 67 and long-plagued by ill health, was for months under mounting pressure to resign. **Sorie Ibrahim Koroma**, aged 54, the first vice-president, who is also in poor health, is now coming under similar pressure to resign. Leading Temne politicians have been manoeuvring for some months to precipitate his downfall. Stevens, who now appears intent on dying in office rather than retiring, probably favours as his successor **Francis Minah**, aged 56, the attorney-general and minister of justice who has now assumed the second vice-presidency. Finance minister **Salia Jusu-Sherriff**, a Mende who has a Creole wife, remains a longer-term contender for the presidency but is unlikely to usurp Koroma and Minah in a sudden succession race.

However, with the economy in total collapse and Stevens' ruling *All Peoples' Congress* (APC) moribund, orderly civilian succession is increasingly academic: the army, at present under the command of Maj. Gen. **Joseph Momoh**, might well be obliged eventually to take over in the same way that Col. **Lansana Conté** took over in neighbouring Guinea after President **Sekou Touré's** death in March. Though Stevens is less ruthless than Touré was, there are many parallels between the two countries. Col Conté would almost certainly approve a military takeover in Sierra Leone, especially if serious instability followed Stevens' death.

The minor cabinet reshuffle announced immediately after Kamara-Taylor's resignation is only part of fairly wide changes Stevens reportedly wishes to

make. (Apart from making Minah second vice-president, the minister of information and broadcasting, **Moiwa Korji**, and the minister for social welfare and rural development, **Mohammed Dabo**, were sacked). It is possible that one or two nationally-respected figures, such as the minister for tourism, **Idrissa Fofana**, will be brought into the cabinet. The foreign minister, **Abdulai Conteh**, might take over Minah's duties as attorney-general; and **Abbas Bundu** (who was recently mentioned in connection with Japanese fishing gear - AC Vol 25 No 7) is a candidate for the foreign affairs portfolio, provided Conteh is transferred.

On the other hand there are growing indications that Stevens and his advisers are contemplating much more wide-ranging cabinet changes, which would include the bringing into cabinet of professional people from outside politics. Technically that would require an amendment to the national constitution. One of the objects of such an exercise could be to appease influential local **Lebanese** businessman, and other leading figures in the Lebanese and Afro-Lebanese business establishment who might wish to have a more open role in politics. Two years ago a number of them, including the lawyer, **Edward Akar** (AC Vol 23 No 6), lobbied hard to become MPs. But they were rebuffed by a large cross-section of APC stalwarts. Akar and lawyer colleagues such as **Eke Hallowell** and **Shekib Basman** might thus end up in cabinet fairly soon.

Whatever reshuffles are carried out, it is most unlikely that a clear heir-apparent to Stevens will emerge. Minah is at times a ruthless politician, as events in his southern fief (AC Vol 24 No 15) have sometimes shown, but he has insufficient national appeal to remain president for long after Stevens dies. And as mentioned above, Koroma's political

future is increasingly uncertain. The manner of Kamara-Taylor's final demise will probably have some bearing on Koroma's fate.

The process of excluding Kamara-Taylor started last year when he was reportedly refused permission to go to London for medical treatment. He sought treatment at his home town of Madina, but before he had recovered, his Limba tribe supporters persuaded him to return to Freetown to safeguard his office. In April, while Stevens was in London for medical treatment, Jusu-Sherriff was appointed acting second vice-president even though Kamara-Taylor was in Freetown, ostensibly fit for the job. Kamara-Taylor's supporters, notably in the form of the influential Limba Friendly Society, *Ekute*, straightaway began canvassing further support. A meeting which the society had arranged to be held in Freetown town hall was then apparently cancelled on orders from state house, which in turn presumably got its orders from Stevens. Among those expected to have attended was Maj.Gen. Momoh and **E.T. Kamara**, deputy secretary-general of the ruling *All Peoples' Congress* (APC).

Certainly there is a strong argument for Koroma to go: he never fully recovered from a stroke he suffered several years ago. (Stevens, Koroma and Kamara-Taylor were known collectively in Freetown as God the Father, Son and Holy Ghost). Some of his colleagues from the northern Temne tribe are now intent on hastening his downfall. Among his detractors is **Abu Kamara**, minister of Justice, Chief **Alimamy Dura**, paramount chief of Safroko, and **Shaka Kanu**, minister of development and also Koroma's brother-in-law, and Sumbu Forna, minister of energy. A meeting of Temne political potentates was held at the end of April at the *Churchill* Hotel in London to decide who should be put forward as Koroma's replacement. Abu Kamara argued strongly that they had little time to make up their minds. However, no decision was reached, not least because they were unable to agree who was the most senior northern MP after Koroma. More recent efforts in Sierra Leone to agree have met with equal failure.

Probably frustrated by their inability to form a plausibly united front with which to confront Koroma, a number of Temne potentates are now bringing the battle into the open. Abu Kamara, who considers himself a "more decent person" than Koroma, has publicly accused the latter of "hate", claiming that were it not for his (Kamara's) intervention, Stevens would long ago have sacked him as first vice-president. Koroma appears intent on a fight to the finish.

In this climate of uncertainty the significance of Sekou Touré's death, followed so swiftly by a military coup, cannot be underestimated. Officially the coup was not announced in Sierra Leone until Stevens had been back in Freetown for a week. The head of media services, **Jaward Tunis**, and the chief

information officer **Herbert Williams**, were - for public consumption - rebuked for not announcing it sooner. Before that the Foulah community in Sierra Leone had added to the bemusement by voicing fears that Sekou Touré was up to his old tricks. People had only seen pictures of his coffin.

The Sierra Leonean economy meanwhile continues to break up. Shortages of basic goods are pervasive. Fuel, in critically short supply, is inadequate to maintain essential services such as the national hospital in Freetown or the fire-brigade. Because of the lack of petrol and diesel, there is insufficient transport to bring food from the hinterland to Freetown. What food does arrive is therefore exorbitantly expensive. Even bread is usually now in short supply because of a lack of flour. There is an acute shortage of rice.

Salaries on the other hand have remained static. Fraud and corruption is becoming increasingly a necessity for survival. Civil servants are profiting most from it. The *National Trading Company* is being wound up because of mismanagement and misappropriation. (The managing director's wife was recently sentenced to 12 years' jail for misappropriating 500,000 Leones from the *West Africa Exams Council*). The entire board of the *National Housing Corporation* has been dismissed for purchasing 36 acres of land without the knowledge of the minister of land, housing and country planning. Scandal is rife at the ministry of works, where the senior engineer at the public works department in Freetown has issued at least 11 caterpillar tractors, a number of pumping machines and other equipment to various diamond miners in Kono, Kenema and Bo. (Private mining ventures, which often illegally circumvent state controls), are numerous.

Thus while the economy deteriorates, political uncertainty increases. Organised opposition abroad remains fragile, particularly following a recent split in the *Sierra Leone Alliance Movement* (SLAM). Accusing SLAM leader **Ambrose Ganda** of being dictatorial, a group spearheaded by **Adewole John** (AC Vol 24 No 9), SLAM's short-lived secretary-general, has unofficially announced the formation of another party - the *Sierra Leone Democratic Party* (SLDP). Its tentative leadership so far includes **Eddison Gorvie**, a former diplomat at the Sierra Leone embassy in London; **Lans Joe Sesay**, a former journalist on the now defunct *Tablet* newspaper in Freetown; **Naufal Din-Gabisi** and **Taborah Osman**, both of whom are Muslim. Ganda, now SLAM secretary-general - the post of chairman has been abolished - intends to counter the SLDP by building on SLAM's existing links with European (particularly **West German**) and **United States**-based Sierra Leonean exile groups.

Footnote

Aged 35, John was vice-president of the APC youth wing and a member of the APC executive committee until he left Sierra Leone in 1970. He is now in the acting profession.

NATIONALIST PARTY SEEKS WAYS TO COMBAT EXTREME RIGHT

Right Wing Gains Minimized

Pretoria BEELD in Afrikaans 29 Jun 84 p 14

[Editorial: "Promising"]

[Text] The Potgietersrus and Rosettenville by-election results did not, at the time, indicate new political trends, but only confirmed what is already known: North Transvaal remains firmly against reforms and the right wing elements do not have any potential of winning seats elsewhere. Since the Conservative Party/Reconstituted National Party (KP/HNP) elements are now boasting that the "might of the right wingers" has been demonstrated, they must be reminded that what is being blown up into a big deal is still a small matter.

Out of the four by-elections which the National Party (NP) has had to grapple with in Northern Transvaal since last year, Potgietersrus was surely the most encouraging even if the KP's showing was better than expected. This is because Potgietersrus became indicative of a new NP enthusiasm and a more effective organization.

This holds a good promise for a future which includes a new political order of things in the months to come for Northern Transvaal as well. Instead of being downhearted there must be urgent efforts in conveying the logic and necessity of the coming era of a policy of consensus.

The good results of Rosettenville ought to be encouraging enough for the National Party of Transvaal.

Whereas Potgietersrus has driven the far right elements deeper into each other's arms, and as a result we can expect new political debauchery, Rosettenville has certainly turned out to be the writing on the wall for the New Republic Party (NRP). This party must now choose between supporting the government's task of bringing about reform or playing the part of the critic for the sake of a handful of votes.

Thus yesterday's results require new dedication and key decisions from those who profess that a shared voice is the only way for tomorrow.

New Strategy Discussed

Pretoria BEELD in Afrikaans 29 Jun 84 p 6

[Article by the Political Editorial Staff: "New Strategy for the Rural Districts"]

[Text] The National Party is going to concentrate on bringing its political message to rural districts voters in a much more effective way.

Dr Lucas Nel, chief secretary of the National Party of Transvaal said that attention will be given to another strategy and greater attention will be given to rural districts.

In the light of the results in Potgietersrus the National Party will be planning its strategy in a way as to bring about a 100 percent streamlining in the area of organization in Northern Transvaal.

Difference

Dr Nel said that the National Party fought intensively in Rosettenville and Potgietersrus. In both instances everything that could be done was done with respect to organization, but that does not mean that the effort was 100 percent.

The results emphasize the difference that exists between certain rural areas and urban regions.

(The Conservative Party won in Potgietersrus by 1,034 votes. In Rosettenville the National Party defeated the Conservative Party by 1,797 votes.)

Information

The National Party must look at one serious problem squarely in the eyes: the difficult economic situation and the increase in the general sales tax.

This has led to the low voting percentage, especially in Rosettenville. Although information in this respect was provided it did not get to the people all the time.

Dr Nel said that the difficult economic conditions was also one of the biggest factors responsible for the light voting in Potgietersrus.

The Conservative Party did not get a positive vote. It was rather a negative vote in light of the economic conditions.

Factions

The National Party is disappointed about Potgietersrus, but it is not discouraged.

The positive results in Rosettenville and the negative results for the National Party in Potgietersrus serve to confirm that in the present political framework of the country there are extreme right and extreme left factions.

In between there is a very well balanced and strong middle group of moderates.

The results have probably brought the New Republic Party to the end of its road. This party will have to make a choice about its new political loyalties.

The fact that the Conservative Party, as an extreme right group, has become a factor to be reckoned with by the National Party must be accepted as a reality.

Fight

The National Party's planning must be aimed at fighting that party a lot more energetically.

The Conservative Party is just as harmful to the country as a leftist party. In both electoral divisions the National Party had to fight against the combined attacks of the Conservative Party, the Reconstituted National Party and the Afrikaner Defense Movement. This was very evident especially in Potgietersrus.

Dr Nel said that he had many talks with Reconstituted National Party supporters. They believe that in light of their collaboration they "will be getting something" from the Conservative Party.

The Future

He said that time is on the side of the National Party. If the new constitution works then the rural areas will lose that feeling of being threatened and conditions will change even with respect to the economy.

He is therefore optimistic about the future and achievements of the National Party in the rural areas.

7964

CSO: 3401/90

POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT THREATENS TO SPLIT ASB

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 19 Jul 84 p 11

[Article by Gary van Staden]

[Text] BLOEMFONTEIN — The Afrikaanse Studentebond (ASB) was not shirking its responsibility by refusing to become involved in political issues, the organisation's president, Mr Andre Bartlett, said here yesterday.

Mr Bartlett defended the ASB's decision not to debate three crucial motions — covering the Mixed Marriages Act, section 16 of the Immorality Act, open universities and the rights of Indians in the Free State — as matters of policy.

"If we had refused to discuss the motions altogether, we could be accused of not meeting our responsibilities."

NO STAND

He said the issues had been discussed at some length.

"What we did not do was take a stand one way or the other," Mr Bartlett said.

He added that the ASB had decided to bring political issues to the attention of students, but to allow them to make up their own minds.

"The ASB is a cultural or-

ganisation concerned with the day-to-day affairs of students on campus. We intend to steer well clear of party politics," Mr Bartlett added.

He said that the ASB had decided in principle before the congress began that political or otherwise sensitive motions would be accepted for discussion only.

No formal policy decision would be taken.

"We do not want the ASB to be seen as taking sides in matters of politics."

"If we accepted political motions on the policy roll and took a binding vote, this organisation might well be torn apart in the event of a dispute," Mr Bartlett said.

"As we do not want that to happen, we discuss such motions only.

"This creates an opportunity for different points of view to be expressed and allows individual congress members to decide for themselves without feeling bound by a policy decision".

Mr Bartlett felt that the average student was not looking to the ASB for guidance.

They asked only that the organisation should bring key political issues to their attention.

"We have had very positive feedback on this matter from students.

"They value the fact that we allow them to decide for themselves," he said.

He also expressed confidence that the ASB would be able to maintain its neutral stand on party political matters, despite the fact that virtually every other Afrikaner cultural organisation was involved in the power struggle between the National Party and the Conservative Party.

DIRECTION

"We have managed to stay above it so far, and I see no reason why we shouldn't be able to do so in the future," Mr Bartlett said.

He conceded that there were forces both inside and outside the organisation which wanted to see the ASB move in a particular direction.

"We are strong enough to keep our heads above the political waters," he said.

"The ASB is not ducking the issues. Our only task is to point them out."

LABOR PARTY ELECTION MANIFESTO CLAIMS APARTHEID 'HERESY'

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 27 Jul 84 p 12

[Text]

CAPE TOWN. — Apartheid is a "heresy" and is evil, the Rev Allan Hendrickse, leader of the Labour Party, writes in the party's first official election manifesto.

The manifesto includes a call by Mr Hendrickse on voters to vote for the Labour Party.

"Apartheid is a heresy. Apartheid is evil. The Labour Party is going into the system to dismantle and destroy apartheid, just as it entered and destroyed the coloured Persons' Representative Council.

"This is positive action and not noise-making. Change has to start somewhere, sometime. Now is the place. Now is the time," he states.

The Labour Party com-

mitted to:

- Advancing the rights of all South Africans through negotiation with the Government;
- Opposing communism vigorously;
- Opposing all forms of racial discrimination;
- Ensuring the rights of the individual;
- Supporting the rule of Law;
- Opposing forced labour and the exploitation of cheap labour;
- Working to full employment, full production and equal opportunity for all;
- Striving for the effective participation of all people in Government;
- Eliminating race discrimination in legislation and practice. — Sapa.

(Report by D. Breier, 122 St George's Street, Cape Town.)

CSO: 3400/2084

VENDA OPPOSITION LEADER CLAIMS ELECTION RESULTS FALSIFIED

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 18 Jul 84 p 9

[Article by David Capel]

[Text]

UNDER the thick, romantic mist that covers Venda's lush mountain-side, lies an even fog-gier haze — especially at election time.

The haze turned into gloom for the "homeland's" opposition party when Venda's election results were announced last week and it learned it would be kept from power for the third time in 11 years — despite its assertion that it has "overwhelming popular support".

The tiny homeland situated about 80km from Louis Trichardt, became "independent" in September 1979.

Hundreds of rural Vendas trod through the homeland's sub-tropical countryside to cast their votes in an election that drew cries of foul play from the opposition, the Venda Independance People's Party, (VIP) almost before the ballot papers landed in their boxes.

In fact, the opposition claims some papers DIDN'T land in the boxes — they found two spent papers outside a polling booth.

The VIP's fiery, outspoken leader, businessman Mr Gilbert Bakane, said after the results were announced he planned legal action against Chief Minister Patrick Mphephu's government.

The Venda people, claims Mr Bakane, are clearly be-

hind his party and firmly opposed to leaders who were "foisted" on them.

A government spokesman yesterday denied the claims, however. The Director General of Information and Broadcasting, Mr T W Nethononda, said the election had gone "very well".

He said if there was any foul play, the VIP had ample chance to bring this to the attention of the authorities. On the question of the two ballot papers, Mr Nethononda said he could not understand how they came to be outside a polling booth.

He reacted to Mr Bakane's claim that a VIP candidate had witnessed "deliberate miscounting" of ballot papers by saying Mr Bakane and his candidates were present at the counting and could have raised objections if they saw fit.

In 1973 the VIP captured 13 of the 18 elected seats in the Venda Legislative Assembly, but were kept from power by an alliance between Mr Mphephu and 42 nominated members.

Under the Venda constitution 42 members are elected and 42 are nominated by regional authorities of chiefs and headmen. The latter 42 sided with Chief Mphephu in 1973.

In 1978 the VIP again won hands down, only to have 12 of its members detained under emergency powers

ceded to Chief Mphephu by Pretoria after disturbances which resulted in the Venda Legislative Assembly Building being damaged.

Last week's results made the "foul play" tally a hat-trick, according to Mr Bakane.

He said the results were "cooked" and produced two ballot papers in his party's favour which, he said, were found outside a polling booth in Sibasa.

Last week he was urgently gathering his scattered men for talks on the party's strategy after the elections.

"The people of Venda have made it clear they want the VIP to run the show. But we have been denied power. It's a shocking situation," Mr Bakane said.

Speaking from the VIP's

dilapidated headquarters in Sibasa, the 40-year-old party leader, surrounded by his faithfuls, warned that the VIP would "fight tooth and nail" to see justice done.

"Mphephu is not aware what he is doing. Things can't go on like this... there'll be a riot here."

Then, urging me to take down what he was saying, he added forcefully: "If the people of Venda come to me now and say 'lets go to the bush', I will".

Scowling at his followers for making a noise while he spoke, Mr Bakane shot me an angry glance when I inadvertently used the word "lose" in relation to the elections.

"We did not lose... we were cheated," he shouted.

He claimed the VIP was not told when or where the results would be announced.

He heard through the grapevine "by sheer chance".

He said the only reason the VIP was involved in the "independent" homeland's politics, was because it had to "make the most of a bad situation."

"We believe this independence is something we can improve on. Our party consists of people who have property and other interests here. We don't want to leave".

Mr Bakane claimed starvation in Venda was rife. The VIP would develop the homeland's agriculture in order to right the situation.

He has not lost hope — firmly believing that the election results will serve as a boost to his party's credibility.

"The VIP will grow from strength to strength and there is nothing the govern-

ment can do to halt this. The people will continue to support us".

Venda has come under the spotlight during the past few years when two people have died in detention, a Lutheran Church lay preacher, Mr Tshifhiwa Muophe, and a farmer, Mr Samuel Tshikudo.

Earlier this month another clergyman, Dean Simon Farisani, expressed fears about being detained on his return to Venda from a visit to Washington where he delivered an address on apartheid and his own detention and alleged torture by the Venda police.

Now, in this beautiful corner of Africa, where goats and chickens are more part of the road than motor cars, the opposition are again flexing their muscles for a fight.

MIDDLE GROUND BETWEEN TREURNICHT, TUTU SOUGHT

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 20 Jul 84 p 8

[Article in the "Opinion" column by Ron Schurink: "Polarised Thinking at a T-Junction"]

[Text] NOTHING is more certain when one listens to or reads the words of Bishop Tutu and Dr Treurnicht, than that blacks and whites in South Africa have to find in their thinking a middle ground in which both will be comfortable.

Primarily aware of the disadvantages suffered by blacks at the moment, Bishop T pleads for non-racialism and the end of apartheid.

"The only way forward to true peace and justice for all is when apartheid will have been dismantled," were his words to the annual meeting of the South African Council of Churches in Johannesburg last month.

And he challenged the Government to "declare a commitment to a common citizenship for all South Africans in an undivided South Africa".

Primarily aware of the danger to Afrikaner identity that lies precisely in that Dr T wrote in "Credo van 'n Afrikaner":

"We wish to remain a white people with self-determination in our own territory.

"That is why we set borders. That is why we not only avoid points of friction, but also meeting points in equality (gelykskakelingspunte) and mixing."

Bishop T suggested in his speech: "... call a national convention of all the authentic leaders of all sections of our community to map out the kind of South Africa we want — truly democratic, just and non-racial."

Has he realised that not only Dr T, but also many other Afrikaners and whites

in general, see a non-racial South Africa as essentially undemocratic and unjust because the weight of black numbers will make it a non-Afrikaner, non-white South Africa?

But neither has Dr T thought far enough. "If the liberals think their abstract principles through to our actual situation — that is to say, if they try to visualise how non-white and white each can enjoy freedom, justice and neighbourliness — they must plead parallel nationalism!

"Under no other system can there be freedom and justice for the Afrikaner or for other smaller groups such as the coloureds and smaller black peoples."

Just a moment, Dr T. What about justice between peoples, particularly when history has hardly given them borders concomitant with their respective numbers and economic viability?

That is the question Dr T has not yet addressed. And it is surely incumbent upon him, as a Christian leader among the "haves" rather than the "have-nots" to do so. ("Do unto others...")

Only if he should call whites to an appropriate sacrifice of their current disproportionate territorial hegemony, is he entitled to expect that Bishop T should relinquish his dream of a unitary South Africa ruled by the black man.

It's a difficult thing to ask of whites. But Dr T needs only to expand on his own words in "Credo":

"South Africa is in a unique position to show the world that it is possible to protect national and cultural communities on their own ground, and that it is at the same time possible for such protected communities (which demand and practise self-determination) to help one another, maintain contact with one another and fulfil a mission towards one another, without the right to self-determination and the territory in which to practise it being prejudiced."

If he is serious about peace in South Africa, he should add to those words a call, in both Christian and pragmatic terms, for the rationalisation of territorial hegemonies.

And for it to take place amid (in the best sense of his own words) continuing friendliness and co-operation, surely best exempli-

fied by an economic community.

For it's clear that unless whites are prepared to accept such a rationalisation, the situation he sketches is impossible.

If he took this step forward in his thinking, he and other whites who did the same would find that the middle ground between black and white in South Africa is the only place for men of conscience to be. They might even be able to persuade Bishop T to join them there.

Among the first to move determinedly to that ground should be the English-speaking South Africans. Not only were their forebears nurtured for a long time in traditions of fair play and pragmatism, but they are still the primary builders of the economy which unites the striving of all races.

Far from being a place of impotence, the middle ground between equally matched nationalisms, is a place of power.

Not only is there the compulsion of Christian conscience to be exercised on men such as Dr T and Bishop T — there are powerful persuaders in the understanding and investment we are best placed to generate from the outside world.

A fully Christian and pragmatic objective for South Africa, which would be enthusiastically encouraged by the West, is a dynamic Economic Community of Azania, embracing white, Zulu, Xhosa and other national units — which would in their turn preserve distinctive cultures just as such cultures have been preserved (as Dr T was careful to point out in "Credo") in the European Economic Community.

Fortunately, events are still at a stage when sound thinking can pre-empt violent confrontation. Let's make sure that it does.

DISRUPTION OF MEETINGS CONDEMNED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 26 Jul 84 p 13

[Text]

CAPE TOWN. — Disturbances such as that at the Bishop Lavis community hall on Monday night not only hindered the South African police in their main task of preventing crime but were also a "blot on our community in the Cape as a whole" Brigadier J S Odendaal, divisional commissioner for the Western Cape, said yesterday.

Brigadier Odendaal's statement follows the "intervention" of the police at a Labour Party election meeting.

He said the SAP would take "firm action" against any form of intimidation or violence aimed at disturbing any lawful political meeting.

Brigadier Odendaal

said he had made it "quite clear" that in the field of politics the SAP was impartial.

"This impartiality should not be interpreted as tolerance of the infringement of the democratic rights of citizens and any intentional transgression of the law.

He said "pandemonium" had erupted at the meeting, and it had been absolutely necessary to immediately restore order to avoid serious damage to property.

"I reiterate my warning that the SAP would take firm action against any intimidation, violence or threats of violence aimed at disturbing the orderly course of any lawful political meetings held by any population group."

CS0: 3400/2084

STUDY TRUST AFFECTED BY RECESSION

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 26 Jul 84 p 11

[Text]

THE economic recession is hamstringing a group of unheralded backroom men and women who spend all their free time dedicatedly raising funds to help put deserving students through high school and university.

In the past 10 years the group, The Study Trust, has collected and paid out R500 000 in bursary funds to help several thousand students of all races — to qualify, with emphasis on technical training and training as teachers, for the labour market.

But now pressure is threatening the work of the group, which boasts a less than 1 percent administration expense level and most of whose work is done voluntarily.

According to Mrs Eldie Bührmann an executive member of the Northern Transvaal branch of the trust, funds are dwindling — while applications increase — as the recession tightens its grip.

"We have still managed to budget R115 000 for bursaries this year — but they won't be stretched as far because we have had to increase them from R100 to R150" she said.

But there were funds for only one in every six applications.

CS0: 3400/2084

UDF SEES TUMAHOLE AS 'BACKDROP TO RESISTANCE'

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 18 Jul 84 p 11

[Article by Lucille McNamara]

[Text]

The United Democratic Front's publicity secretary, Mr Terror Lekota, last night warned that the unrest in Parys was the backdrop to a rising tide of resistance to oppression in South Africa.

Mr Lekota travelled directly from the riot-torn Tumahole township near Parys to address the Catholic Theological Winter School in Johannesburg after helping to arrange a private post-mortem for a man who died in police detention following his arrest during weekend violence.

Mr Johannes Ngalo was found dead in his cell next morning.

Mr Lekota told The Star that the police immediately arranged for a post-mortem, but failed to give Mr Ngalo's wife a chance to have a family doctor present.

Hysterical

With the help of the UDF the family has now instructed a Johannesburg attorney, Miss Priscilla Jana, to arrange a private post-mortem on Friday morning.

"When I saw Mr Ngalo's wife she was hysterical. She just cannot believe that her husband went out one day and that the next day the police confronted her with his corpse.

"These actions are leaving deep scars on our people."

Mr Lekota was detained in

Tumahole for questioning by police who confiscated several items of literature from his car, including letters which the UDF had written to the Prime Minister and the Pope.

He said time was running out for South Africa. "I believe a very disastrous situation is developing in this country, especially after what I have seen in Parys."

He referred to years of Government decisions to impose oppressive legislation which had made it impossible for black people to express their opposition.

He said: "If people are informed ... and see the conditions in which our people live ... we are convinced that they will withhold their support for this Government."

He reiterated that the new constitution was unacceptable because it continued to keep mute the country's majority population and endorsed the fundamental principles of apartheid.

Saying that blacks should have a voice in the running of the country, Mr Lekota added: "We are not asking a favour. We regard our demands as a sacrosanct right.

"We have contributed and shaped this country which is big enough to house all South Africans and if we are going to get hammered we are prepared to pay the price."

PROTECTION FOR COLORED CANDIDATES' FAMILIES

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 27 Jul 84 p 9

[Text]

CANDIDATES in the coming Coloured election for constitutional change, and their families, will be protected by the police after the wife of Mr Peter Marais, leader of the People's Congress Party was threatened with violence, molestation and even rape this week.

Mr Marais had a meeting with the Divisional Commissioner of Police in Cape Town on Wednesday and Brig G J Odendaal gave him the assurance that the police would protect the candidates as well as their families.

Mr Marais said yesterday the time had come for Dr Alan Boesak, a patron of the United Democratic Front (UDF), to speak out about the threats against the wives of candidates in the coming elections, or women candidates.

Mr Marais said his wife and others were threatened with violence, molestation and rape.

The Rev Alan Hendrickse, leader of the Labour Party, also said that Dr Boesak could not maintain silence about

the violence at recent political meetings in the Cape and Transvaal.

He said the violent actions against people who differed from the UDF could have serious consequences and people's lives could be at stake.

Mr Marais said he had communicated with the Minister of Police, Mr Louis le Grange, about the threats to his wife and others and a meeting with Brig Odendaal was arranged.

He challenged Dr Boesak, or any of the three chairmen of the UDF, Messrs Oscar Mpetha, Archie Ngumede or Mrs Albertina Sisulu, to a public debate.

The leader of the Reformed Freedom Party, Mr Charles Julies, said yesterday that because of the violence they had decided not to hold any public meetings.

Mr Julies said he and his canvassers were concentrating on street work.

The Rev Hendrickse, Mr Peter Marais and Mr Don Mateman (Freedom Party leader) said they were going ahead with their planned public meetings.

(Report by Rika van Graan, 28 Height St, Doornfontein, Johannesburg)

FUTURE OF INDIANS LIES WITH WHITES SAYC INDIAN LEADER

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 26 Jul 84 p 8

[Article by Madden Cole]

[Text]

THE future of South African Indians lay with the Whites and not with the Blacks, Mr Nanubhai Desai, an Independent candidate for Central Rand in the coming election for the House of Delegates, told The Citizen.

Mr Desai, a prominent leader in the Indian community, said he felt it was therefore wrong for Indian radicals to encourage Blacks to agitate against the Government.

"Their call to boycott the coming election has failed and has no prospect of success as their insistence for all or nothing will not have the effect of forcing the Whites to abdicate power.

"What the Indian voters must now realise is that they have two choices before them — consultation or confrontation. But by boycotts we get nothing, whereas by negotiation we can only stand to gain."

Mr Desai accused the Natal and Indian Congresses and the United Democratic Front of double standards.

"On the one hand they profess to be followers of the high moral principles of Mahatma Gandhi, while on the other they do not dissociate themselves from the election violence taking place.

"Then there are certain members of the wealthy Indian community who encourage the boycotting of schools, but they send their children to White private schools here or to expensive schools in England and India.

Mr Desai challenged these Indians to contest their policies in the elections so that the voters could decide on the matter of consultation or confrontation.

"But they won't do it because they have no guts to fight an election and to allow the people to decide.

Because of boycotts, intimidation and to a certain degree, apathy, Mr Desai is not hopeful of high percentage polls on election day.

"I expect an average of 15 percent in Transvaal and about 20 percent in Natal."

STATUS OF WHITE, BLACK ATHLETES REVIEWED

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 14 Jul 84 p 8

[Article by Rodney Hartman, deputy sports editor: "The State of Play--in Black and White--of Sport in South Africa"]

[Text] "I now have an acute awareness of what the children want...They want a normal society, which is little enough to ask for"--Hassan Howa, former president of SACOS, in 1977.

SINCE that emotive statement above — seven years ago — Mr Howa's wish for a normal society has not yet been achieved. But there is no denying that the face of South African sport has undergone some radical and dramatic changes.

Yet the question is still posed *ad nauseum*: can sport now truly claim to be non-racial in its structure and in its practice?

It's a vexing one that, depending which way you sway in the breeze, might be answered in two ways.

The first is that South African sport can never be nonracial as long as apartheid exists. If people are not able to mix on a totally unfettered basis in all walks of life, how can sport somehow achieve equilibrium?

In any event, apartheid in the schools will always preclude total integration in sport from a grass-roots level.

The second answer is that sport has already achieved nonracialism, because it allows people of all races to win Springbok colours. The international sports boycott was, after all, originally intended to bring this about.

It's an undeniable fact that the past six years or so have seen almost revolutionary change in the campaign to break down racial barriers in sport. For one who has been so close to sport for so long

now, it is hard to believe that there was actually a time when the South African Government refused permission for Maoris to tour this country in New Zealand rugby teams.

But to assess the true extent of nonracialism in sport, one is confronted with a political system that is quite unique. For every claim there is a counter-claim; for every black Springbok there is another black sportsman prepared to protest that he is being denied equal opportunity.

The trite argument that sport should not be mixed with politics is baseless, particularly within a South African context, where the two are inextricably linked.

There is little doubt that sport in South Africa has become the object of civic struggle in the name of social justice.

The South African Council on Sport (Sacos) points out that non-racial sport — which it purports to practise — should not be confused with multiracial or multinational "ethnic" competition. The latter two strategies, they say, allow black sportsmen to compete, albeit at the highest level, under umbrella bodies structured on racial lines.

In many sports, controlling bodies have been formed to bring together "white," "coloured" and "African" associations in a formal union aimed at demonstrating that all sportsmen are now equal. These multinational organisations pur-

port to practise nonracial sport ... but do they?

With the notable exception of cricket, all non-Sacos affiliates are members of Saonga, the South African Olympic and National Games Association. Sacos claims that this massive umbrella body, under the chairmanship of Olympic chief Rudolf Opperman, is merely supporting white dominance by going the multinational route.

Saonga refutes this. Its intention, it says, is to break down racial barriers on the sports field and in its affiliated bodies.

From a totally independent platform, one can only applaud the efforts being made to allow black sportsmen the chance to strive for a better deal. But multiracialism — or multinationalism if you like — is still a far cry from the pure ideal of nonracialism.

While some are better off than others, the vast majority of sports in South Africa have been affected in some way or other by the international boycott.

Professionals in individual sports — golf, tennis, boxing, snooker, motor racing — are the best off. Cricketers, too, can still play professionally as individuals in English County cricket.

In squash, amateur golf, cycling and rowing, South Africans still compete abroad ... but sometimes only through clandestine operations via the "back door".

Excluding amateur golf, which might be deemed an elitist sport, rugby is the only popular team sport that can still play officially-recognised Test matches under the banner of the International Rugby Board.

Yet, ironically, the country's (white) national game is probably less nonracial than sports like cricket or soccer ... both of which have been expelled by their international controlling bodies.

Craven Week is open to all — and black and coloured school rugby teams take part quite happily — but there have been cases in the past of white schools withdrawing because they are forbidden from playing against other race groups.

Cricket has temporarily broken the stranglehold by staging slickly-organised rebel tours. There have been four to date ... three of them by black teams from the West Indies and Sri Lanka.

Like cricket, many local sports have been expelled or are suspended from their international governing bodies. Of those that tenuously

retain their international membership, many are often obliged to exercise their own restraint ... normally in the form of not entering for world team competitions to prevent the inevitable disruption their presence would cause.

"It is a gesture of goodwill to our friends," is how one administrator describes the latter ploy.

With few if no exceptions, sports administrative bodies in this country have attempted to "normalise" their codes on a multiracial or non-racial basis during the last decade.

Many of them have done everything they can ... some, like cricket, even more than they were originally asked to do by their international colleagues.

Yet national administrators cannot prescribe to clubs who they may admit as members, nor can they overrule racially-inspired decisions by parents or schools authorities.

It is here that true nonracialism falls foul of the system.

Last year a visiting West Indian cricketer, Colin Croft — who lives in Miami, Florida — was ordered by a ticket examiner to leave a "whites-only" carriage on a suburban Cape Town train.

The West Indian cricketers were accompanied on their tour by a Government official, Mr Phillip Moolman, whose function it was to prevent embarrassing racial incidents like this. Mr Moolman was recently appointed the new Sports Attache at the South African Embassy in London.

The South African Cricket Union's president, Mr Joe Pamensky, deplored the Croft affair. But the unfortunate incident merely underlined the difficulties that face cricket in its all-out efforts to win support in the international forum.

The Government's recent refusal to give reasons for not renewing the passport of Mr Krish Mackerdun, new president of the Sacos-aligned SA Cricket Board, who planned to lobby delegates at next week's International Cricket Conference meeting in London, is yet another harmful example.

Ironically, the SACB will now be represented at Lord's by Mr Sam Ramsamy, chairman of the London-based Sanroc (Sacos's external wing) and the most outspoken opponent of sports contacts with South Africa.

The Sacos slogan — that there can be no normal sport in an abnormal society — is one that makes sense to many people.

Until such time as there are major political changes in this country, Sacos has pledged a moratorium on all international sporting contact with South Africa.

But why should sportsmen and administrators be held to ransom because of the policies of this Government?

"White sportsmen have the right to exercise their vote, so they are as much to blame as anyone else," is how one Sacos official put it. "They can change the system through the ballot."

In the eyes of the world, the honorary white status bestowed on black sportsmen and women is patently cosmetic.

A black man, within the context of the sport he is playing, may attain temporary equality. As soon as he leaves the protected confines of his team or group — when he returns home after living in an "international" hotel for the duration of some national or international competition — he is no longer equal.

Only last month the newly-formed Winelands provincial rugby team was forced to leave a hotel in Vanderbijlpark prior to their match against Vaal Triangle because coloured members of their team were not allowed in the bar and lounge. The hotel apparently did not enjoy "international" status.

Laws like the Group Areas Act and the Separate Amenities Act have been relaxed in recent years to accommodate the smooth-running of various mixed race competition. But they still remain very much in force outside the narrow confines of sport... and, as long as they do, the world will continue to bestow polecat status on this country's sportsfolk.

The welcome sight of coloured men now playing rugby Tests in the Springbok jersey — a move based purely on merit selection and one to be applauded — does not make South Africa more acceptable in the broader context.

While the majority of sports have been normalised at the upper and middle levels, there is still a problem at the lower end of the scale. Racially-motivated decisions by schools authorities — whether they be from provincial departments, school boards or parent-teacher bodies — continue to provide major stumbling blocks.

When white schools are forbidden to compete against blacks on the sports field — the norm rather than the exception — the administrators of the sport concerned find

it difficult, most times impossible, defending their broader case at an international level.

It has been said that for every step that South African sport takes in the right direction there will be someone — maybe an individual, a petty school authority or a group of parents — prepared to force it back two steps or more.

The vast disparity between the amounts of State money spent on educating and coaching white school children and their black counterparts also suggests that true nonracialism is nothing but a dream.

In addition, while professional sport generates its own finances, many amateur associations are further hampered through lack of funds from Government. This is an argument used in many cases to illustrate the lack of progress of young black sportsmen for want of decent facilities.

Below is the current state of play in some sports:

SOUTH AFRICA was kicked out of the world basketball body in 1978, but there is still international contact. An American women's team — including two blacks — toured here last year, and there have been tours in the past by the American men, Israel and the Republic of China. No action has been taken internationally against visiting basketballers.

The chairman of the SA Basketball Federation, Mr Sol Berlowitz, says South Africa will only get back into the world body once "South Africa's put its house in order and takes politics out of sport". He points out that basketballers of all races are currently playing in his leagues. Overseas coaches are occasionally imported to help black youngsters.

The biggest problem facing his union is one of finance. "If we had the facilities and the funds, we'd have more players and more tours. Black kids are natural ball players, so every school in Soweto should have a court. And we should have proper indoor courts... at the moment they are a disgrace, particularly in Johannesburg."

"Amateur sport in this country seems to be fighting a losing battle. Government is simply not doing enough for us."

THE SA Cricket Union was formed in 1977 as a single controlling body. The constitution states that the union administers cricket "in such a way as to enable participation in it of all inhabitants without distinction of colour, race or creed".

SACU is not a "multinational" confederation in the true sense, for its constituent associations were formally dissolved on its creation. This justifies claims that cricket has achieved a more integrated structure than any of the other major team sports.

In recent years, provincial teams like Western Province, Transvaal, Boland and Griqualand West have selected local black players, many of whom play for clubs in white areas. In other provinces the standard of black cricket has so far not been high enough to justify their selection.

SACU affiliates, notably the Transvaal Cricket Council, spend vast amounts on the coaching of black youngsters.

Black schoolboys have also played regularly in mini-cricket tournaments organised by the TCC.

The original "white" SACA was a founder-member of the Imperial Cricket Conference. In 1970, the renamed International Cricket Conference cancelled its membership. The England Cricket Council announced that no further tours of South Africa would take place "until South African cricket is played, and teams are selected, on a multiracial basis".

West Indian cricketers currently play for clubs and provinces in South Africa.

The SA Cricket Board, which is affiliated to Sacos, has formally applied for recognition by the ICC... a prerequisite for membership. The board admits that this is a "blocking mechanism" for possible future acceptance of the SACU by the world body.

The ICC, however, has stated that it will only readmit South Africa once cricket in this country is totally united under one organisation.

South Africa's position is not strengthened by the recent refusal by the Government to renew the passport of the SACB president, Mr Krish Mackerdhu, to travel to London for next week's ICC meeting.

A four-man SACU delegation is already in London lobbying ICC delegates.

SACB say that if none of their officials is able to go to London, they will be represented by Mr Sam Ramsamy, chairman of Sanroc and perhaps the most outspoken opponent of international sporting ties with South Africa.

The SACU has successfully staged four "rebel" tours by English, West Indian and Sri Lankan teams since 1982, and it is likely that others are in the pipeline.

THE SA Rugby Board is a founder-member of the International Rugby Board. The Springboks command great respect in world competition, but their chances of continuing to tour abroad are growing slimmer. Tours of the British Isles (1969/70), Australia (1971) and New Zealand (1981) were marked by violent demonstrations on a massive scale.

Tours of South Africa by IRB member countries, excluding Australia, still take place. But these countries are under ever-increasing pressure to cancel such visits.

The SARB is a multinational federation formed in 1978 and incorporating the original "white" SARB, the "coloured" SARF and the "African" SARA. Administrators of all race groups sit on SARB committees, including the Springbok selection committee. The assistant manager of the Springbok team in New Zealand in 1981 was a coloured man, Mr Abe Williams.

SARB is headed by Dr Danie Craven, one of the most influential and highly-respected men in international rugby. Former Sacos president Hassan Howa once said of him: "Among all the white administrators there is none with the quality and charisma of Danie Craven... when he goes, South Africa's international rugby contacts will also be broken." It is an acknowledged fact that Dr Craven has been the voice of enlightened thinking in a sport dominated by arch-conservatives.

The other national rugby body in South Africa is the Sacos-affiliated SARU. It points out that white players have already played under its banner and that this confirms that Sacos does not practise racism in reverse.

Rugby is most popular among blacks in the Cape Province, where players like Errol Tobias, Avril Williams and Wilfred Cupido have represented "white" unions in provincial competition. Tobias became the first black player to wear the Springbok jersey in 1980, and Avril Williams followed this year. Both the SARF and the SARA, as well as the "coloured" Western Province League, play against white teams in provincial competition.

The Craven Week for schools is open to all, but some white schools have, in the past, refused to play against teams representing other race groups.

THE "white" SA Amateur Athletics Union was suspended by the IAAF in 1976 following a Soviet proposal. SAAAU secretary Mr Gert le Roux says that, since 1977, when the union rewrote its constitution, track and field in this country has been "completely integrated". The IAAF, the biggest

sporting body in the world, says it will not send a fact-finding mission to South Africa until the International Olympic Committee does so.

The SAAAU was formed in 1977 as a multinational confederation encompassing the "white" SAAAU, the "African" SAAAF and the "coloured" SAAAA.

The minority SAAAB, affiliated to Sacos, claims it is denied the world-class facilities available to SAAAU athletes. For this reason, they point out, only black athletes under the SAAAU umbrella are able to record Olympic-standard performances.

Three of the five male finalists for the recent SAAAU's Stellenbosch Farmers Winery Athlete of the Year award — conducted in an independent poll by track and field writers — were black. Ernest Seleke's SA record time of 2hr 9min 41sec for the marathon is still the fastest in the world this year.

Mr Le Roux says that all provincial and national meetings staged by the SAAAU are open to athletes of all races. The provinces regularly select mixed teams on merit. Schools athletics, however, is not under the jurisdiction of the SAAAU. The SAAAU is sending nine of its Olympic-qualified athletes and two coaches to watch the Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

SIMON BOTHA, SA Amateur Judo Union president, claims his sport was "one of the first to go fully integrated". He points out that the (British) Jeeps Commission which investigated South African sport acknowledged that there was no segregation in judo.

"I have no idea how many black members we have. Last year we had more than 7 000 registered members, and we don't ask what colour they are.

"There are a number of very promising coloured juniors, especially in the Boland, and it is only a matter of time before one wins a junior title and then goes on to full Springbok colours."

The international sports boycott, he says, is now hurting the "wrong people" in South Africa.

Mr Botha says his union is in the "privileged position" of never having been a member of the International Judo Federation.

"We don't have all the member advantages, like competing at world championships, but the IJF wouldn't like to discourage non-member countries for having free contact."

His union is "still contemplating" an application for international membership, but this would have to be done through specific channels. Last year South Africa hosted tours by Welsh and Belgian teams.

THE MOST popular sport among blacks in South Africa and, therefore, in terms of sheer weight of numbers, the most popular sport overall. It is governed by an umbrella body, the Football Council of South Africa, under the chairmanship of Mr George Thabe.

It's totally nonracial National Professional Soccer League — the biggest and richest of its kind on the African continent — is presently a "growth industry" running into millions of rands.

FCSA was formed in 1976-77 following the expulsion of the "white" Fasa from the world body, Fifa. It presently embodies Fasa, the "African" Sanfa and the "Coloured" Safa.

Indications are that the FCSA is endeavouring to move away from the original multinational concept to conform more strictly with nonracial principles.

Lately there have been allegations of Fasa adopting a pro-apartheid stance in demanding that soccer be run on ethnic lines. It appears that a showdown is imminent between Mr Thabe and Fasa's president, Mr Dave Snaler.

It is further alleged that Fasa has, in the past, put pressure on white high schools not to take part in the multiracial Ellerines annual schools tournament. The knockout competition this year will be contested by 120 schools, of which 17 are white. Organisers point out that this is an increase on previous years.

FCSA is currently observing a moratorium on international tours, having run into opposition from some of the major Soweto clubs on previous aborted ventures of this kind.

FCSA's rival is the South African Soccer Federation which is affiliated to Sacos and is said to have between 45 000 and 75 000 members.

Fifa has a clause in its constitution barring membership to countries which have racial discrimination entrenched in its laws. The latter stipulation — that South African sportmen will only be universally acceptable again once all race laws have been scrapped — would appear to be the bottom line for sport in this country.

THE South African trampoline champion in 1983 was a black man, Archie Siwiza. In a major row, he was once refused facilities at the Oribi Recreational Centre in central Johannesburg. The matter was resolved — only after the damage had already been done — and since then all public recreational centres have been opened to trampolinists of all races.

South Africa is one of the founder-members of FIT, the international body. The president of the SA Amateur Trampoline and Tumbling Union, Mr "Jannie" Jansen, currently serves on the technical committee of FIT and is in charge of tumbling world-wide. On the wall of his Johannesburg office he proudly displays a pennant awarded to him by the Soviet trampolin-

ists. He was also presented with their medal of honour.

There is no reference in the SAATTU's constitution to race. In 1974 the world championships were held in South Africa. The next meeting of FIT will be held in Cape Town in October and the inaugural SA Cup international competition will hopefully be staged at the same time.

As a "friendly gesture" to its friends, the SAATTU has voluntarily decided not to enter the world championships in Japan later this year. This is not surprising, as Japan constantly refuses entry to South African sportsmen. Mr Jansen says South Africa will compete in the next world championships in Paris in 1986.

THE SA Men's Hockey Association has been a member of the world body, the FIH, for some 30 years, but does not take part in world championships. Its president, Mr Steve Jaspan, points out that no member country may be expelled on the grounds of race, religion or political policies. Yet a move inspired by Iron Curtain countries is afoot to expel South Africa at the world congress in Brussels in October.

Mr Jaspan says his body "practises non-racialism in accordance with the statutes

of the FIH". But, he adds, the SA Hockey Board, affiliated to Sacos, has no desire to join forces. "They don't even bother to reply to our letters."

Hockey, like most other team sports, experiences problems at a school level. According to Mr Jaspan, some of the directives put out by the Transvaal Education Department are "shocking". He, in turn, has advised schools that such directives (on mixed sport) are contrary to the constitutions of his body and of the FIH.

THE SA Amateur Swimming Union was expelled from the International Swimming Federation in 1972. SAASU's president, Mr Issy Kramer, says swimming in South Africa is now "fully integrated at all levels" and that the demands of the outside world have been fully complied with.

"There is no discrimination in our constitution."

There is no inter-school competition among the various race groups, but mixed-race swimming for children takes place at club level.

Mr Kramer says his union does lobby delegates of the ISF ... "but that's very confidential."

He says overseas swimmers still compete in South Africa but this is not widely known. Surely swimming reporters would publish such facts? "They play ball with us and don't report it," says Mr Kramer.

THE South African Golf Union is a member of the World Amateur Golf Council. In recent years it has selected Springbok teams for Tests against Switzerland and the Republic of China.

In addition, local amateur golfers may enter events, like the British Amateur, as individuals.

Mr Jim Kellie, secretary of the SAGU, points out that black golfers, if they are good enough, are often lost to the amateur ranks because they automatically turn professional.

Some white clubs allow black golfers to use their courses on certain days of the week, but most clubs do not welcome black members.

Two years ago the SA Professional Golfers' Association decided to grant full membership to black pros.

Of the total 105 profession-

als registered with the PGA's Tournament Players Division, 27 are black. They are automatically able to qualify for the lucrative Sunshine Circuit, which observes no form of racial discrimination. Black pros also run their own Tournament Players Association and organise their own tournaments.

The PGA was recently informed that South Africa would not be welcome at next month's World Cup two-man team tournament in Italy.

South African pros play regularly on the world circuits, but in recent years some European countries have banned them from competing in their national championships.

There are fears that the European circuit could further draw in its lines against future South African participation.

AT LAST year's all-race South African national championships, five out of 11 titles were won by blacks.

The SA National Boxing Federation was one of the first bodies to be banned internationally.

"They kicked us out in 1965 and didn't even notify us. So we couldn't put our case," says its president, Dr Joggie van Eeden. "And they never told us what to do in order to get back."

According to Dr Van Eeden, there are some 15 000 registered amateur black boxers in South Africa, 2 500 whites and 2 000 coloureds.

He says that clubs for black boxers, run by the Anglo American Corporation, the Railways, Escom and the various Administration Boards, offer better facilities than at most white clubs.

"In Soweto alone there are 75 clubs... not just one as was claimed last year in that BBC television documentary. That's the sort of thing we are up against.

"We are totally integrated. There is no reference in our constitution to race, colour or creed.

"We allow the various population groups to stage their own championships, but our national championships are contested by six mixed-race teams, representing the six provincial regions, and all are selected at mixed trials.

"Our teams travel together, live together, share the same change-rooms. There is no discrimination."

The SANBF is an umbrella body incorporating the "white" SAABA, the

"coloured" SAABB and the "African" SAABU.

White delegates voted 31-1 in favour to form a multi-racial umbrella body in 1979.

Dr Van Eeden is assisted by two vice-presidents... one a black man the other a coloured man.

Five years ago 17 American boxers competed in South Africa... and were suspended for three months.

THIS IS the sport that gave South Africa its first black Springbok, Len Davids, in 1977. There are currently 12 black fencing Springboks.

The chairman of the SA Amateur Fencing Association, Mr "Butch" Daniels, recently returned from the world congress in Milan where, for the 18th time in 19 years, a Soviet motion to have South Africa expelled was withdrawn "by negotiation".

Although South Africa is still a member of the international federation, the country's fencers face a "partial ban" and cannot compete at world championships.

But a South African team recently left for Israel, where up to 12 nations are competing in an international competition.

Two years ago eight nations competed in an event South Africa.

Mr Daniels says fencing in South Africa is "entirely integrated". It is a popular sport among coloureds and, although demonstrations have been staged for blacks and Asians, they have shown little interest.

The sport's biggest problem is one of finance. Again, the Government departments do not help.

GYMNASTICS is one of the few Olympic sports still enjoying full membership of its international controlling body. But, says SA Amateur Gymnastic Union president, Mr Hugo Olivier, that statement should be made "with tongue in cheek".

South Africa is restricted internationally and, in recent years, because of the high Eastern Bloc participation, the SAAGU's policy has been to voluntarily "abstain" from world competition to protect its "friendship circle".

Mr Olivier says his union has "opened the door as far as possible" to all race groups. "I cannot tell you how many black gymnasts we have, because I never ask the colour of a man's skin when he enrolls for affiliation."

He points out that gymnastics is not a black man's sport, but his union is currently conducting an "extensive training programme" (sponsored by the Anglo American Corporation) in black areas like Mamelodi and Eersterus.

"I am proud that there is a non-competitive aspect to our sport which we call 'recreational gymnastics,' and this is very popular among the blacks". A number of population groups, representing 1 200 participants, recently competed in one such Gymnastrada at Pretoria University.

Mr Olivier admits that his union does not "mess around" with schools because of problems experienced with education authorities and parents.

But black youngsters are free to compete at a club level. "We are trying to push the sport among blacks."

SUGAR BARGAINING WITH JAPAN

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 26 Jul 84 p 28

[Text]

TOKYO. — South Africa and Japanese trading houses have started negotiations on sales of raw sugar for October shipment, trade sources said.

They said South Africa appears to want to sell trading houses about 100 000 tons of Natal sugar for October/December shipment.

The trading houses, committed to buying a combined 350 000 tons of Natal sugar a year, have offered close to the average October price on the New York futures market minus 20 points plus \$13 a metric ton in freight costs, the sources said.

The sources estimated Natal purchases by the trading houses for June to September shipment at about 130 000 tons, com-

prising four cargoes each of 13 000 tons for June shipment, two for July, two for August and two for September.

Shipment of 1984/85 crop Natal sugar began in late May to early June, they said.

Most Japanese refiners have already secured raw sugar for shipment up to September and many refiners now have more than they need for July-September use.

The Japanese Agriculture Ministry has set a July/September raw sugar import quota of 534,700 tons.

Five Japanese trading houses, including Marubeni Corporation, individually have purchase commitments for Natal sugar.

SISHEN-SALDANHA IRON ORE PROJECT HIT BY HUGE LOSSES

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 20 Jul 84 p 1

[Text] **CAPE TOWN. — Massive and mounting losses on the Sishen-Saldanha iron ore export project have given rise to speculation that the scheme may have to be scrapped or drastically curtailed.**

The scheme came into operation eight years ago amid forecasts of an industrial boom on the Cape west coast.

Figures published by Iscor, which has to carry most of the losses in-

curring, show an estimated loss on the scheme of R73m in the financial year just ended.

Informed reports say there is a projected deficit of as much as R150m for the year to June 1985.

If so, that will bring the accumulated loss since the first consignments of Sishen ore were shipped from Saldanha Bay in 1976 to R246m.

Shipments of ore from Saldanha have declined sharply from a peak of 14.5-million tons in the years 1978/79 and 1979/80 to 8.1-million tons in 1982/83.

The official figures for the past year, in which the world iron-ore price dropped by 12%, have not yet been published.

Figures in the latest Auditor-General's report on SA Transport Services (Sats) show that the ore-export harbour at Saldanha Bay was run at a loss of R6,28m in 1982/83--R5m more than in the previous year.

South Africa's other major mineral-exporting harbour, Richards Bay, suffered an even greater loss in 1982/83 — R18,7m.

The huge losses being incurred on the Sishen-Saldanha scheme are attributed to the international slump in the iron-ore market, more specifically in South Africa's main outlets in Japan and Europe, and Iscor is expecting the "imbalance" in to continue into the 1990s.

When the Sishen-Saldanha scheme was first mooted, the Iscor

management forecast that it could earn R500m a year in foreign exchange for South Africa.

Now, the economic plight of the project has become so alarming that the Minister of Industry and Commerce, Dr Dawie de Villiers, has appointed a special committee under the chairmanship of Mr John Maree, of the Barlow group, to investigate it and to suggest possible solutions.

The committee is expected to complete its work next month.

A spokesman at the Iscor head office in Pretoria said yesterday that the corporation would not be in a position to comment on the future of the Sishen-Saldanha scheme until the Maree committee had completed its task.

• After fierce controversy about the relative merits of developing an iron-ore export facility at Saldanha Bay or at Algoa Bay, a strong pro-Saldanha lobby persuaded the Government to decide in principle, in 1970, to back the Saldanha scheme.

At that time, it was estimated that the scheme, involving provision of an 860km-long rail link and the dredging of Saldanha Bay to take deep-draught bulk carriers, would cost about R328m.

But by the time the scheme had been completed, the overall cost had soared to the region of R1bn.

At first, the rail-link was operated by Iscor itself, but was later taken over by the SA Railways and Harbours Administration at a cost of R640m.

• The Sishen-Saldanha iron ore export scheme was one of a number of multi-million-rand projects planned in the 1970s in an anticipated "West coast boom" which led to large-scale property speculation in the area.

A massive steel "semis" plant, to be backed largely by finance from abroad and which was expected to provide employment for more than 5 000 people, did not materialise.

Neither did overseas plans for a ship-repair yard and a giant drydock at Saldanha, to take super-tankers up to 500 000 tons.

This scheme would also have been labour-intensive and was expected to generate a lot of other industrial activity on the West coast.

CSO: 3400/2079

SIGMA RESTRUCTURED, NAME CHANGED TO AMCAR MOTOR HOLDINGS

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 19 Jul 84 p 1

[Article by David Furlonger]

[Text]

SIGMA has announced a major restructuring programme it believes will return it to the forefront of the South African motor manufacturing scene.

The restructuring involves the formation of a new holding company, a manufacturing company and five autonomous marketing companies.

The name, Sigma, will disappear entirely.

Senior officials of the corporation expect the changes to come into effect at the beginning of September, but say this depends on the outcome of final "logistics" talks with Mazda, Peugeot and Mitsubishi, whose vehicles are marketed by Sigma.

The new holding company will be called Amcar Motor Holdings and its manufacturing arm, Amcar Manufacturing.

The marketing companies, which will operate as autonomous profit-seeking bodies, with their own boards of directors and management teams, will be Mazda SA; MMC Automobiles SA, to market Mitsubishi cars and trucks; Komatsu SA, formerly Sigma Power Corporation; Pacsa, to market Peugeot; and Ampart, to supply parts and accessories for all the group's vehicles.

The chairman of Sigma Motor Corporation, Mr Leslie Boyd, will become chairman of Amcar Motor Holdings. Mr Spencer Sterling will become group managing director and chief executive, as well as chairman of all five marketing

companies.

The company, owned jointly by Anglo American Corporation and Anglo American Industrial Corporation, lost R69m last year and R55m in 1982. So bad did the situation become, that Anglo and Amic last year injected another R117,9m by way of share capital and subordinate debt.

According to some industry sources, Sigma has borrowings of about R300m. If they are correct, the company is likely to face finance charges of at least R60m a year and needs to sell about 5 000 vehicles a month just to cover its interest bill.

In June's pre-GST buying spree, it sold 4 620 cars and 1 712 commercial vehicles — a total of 6 332.

In setting up individual brand marketing companies, Sigma hopes to overcome what it considers the biggest drawback to its operations — lack of a specific identity.

By marketing the name Sigma, rather than Peugeot, Mazda and Mitsubishi, it considers it confused the public by offering them a name they could not buy.

As autonomous bodies, the restructured marketing companies will be concerned strictly with the profitability of their own products. Peugeot, Mazda and Mitsubishi are all happy with the new deal, which they believe will benefit their sales considerably.

Separate dealer networks are being set up to market the three brand-name franchises and a complete study has been completed of Amcar's long-term dealer needs.

PENGE MINERS DISMISSED WITHOUT PENSION

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 19 Jul 84 p 11

[Article by Sol Makgabutlane]

[Text]

Rumbles of dissatisfaction are sounding in the villages of Praktiseer, Segorong, Ga-Moraba, Mmabotjha and Malokela — all situated in the north-eastern Transvaal inside the borders of Lebowa.

It is here that people who worked on Penge mine for many years were discharged after contracting lung ailments. Many such workers, some who say they had 25 years service on the mine, are discharged after being certified unfit because they have contracted asbestosis and pneumoconiosis — all related to inhalation of asbestos or mine dust.

Mineworkers interviewed said they were given compensation up to R1 790 for asbestosis; then dismissed without being given pension money or unemployment insurance benefits.

Once unemployed, the workers said, it was extremely difficult for them to find work and they have to spend their time lounging in the sun with nothing else to do.

Four workers interviewed were Mr John Lesese (74), Mr Staple Masemola (51), Mr Aaron Machoshi (34) and Mr Frans Matseba (44), all of whom were laid off after contracting "gas", as the dreaded diseases are called by the mineworkers.

Mr Matseba, married with four children, joined the mine in January 1959 as a laboratory technician — a job he did until September last year: "Then I was told I had caught gas".

He complained that workers exposed to asbestos particles were not provided with protective respiratory gear until the early 70s, and suspects his illness was accumulated in the period preceding the introduction of protective gear. He was given R1 491 and discharged.

"Having served the mine for 24 years, I

was not pleased with the compensation I got. But there is nothing I can do about it. This amount will not last me for the rest of my life and it is almost impossible to get a new job because no employers want to hire a sick man."

Another former Penge employee who related a tale of anger and trepidation was underground foreman Mr Aaron Machoshi. A father of three, he joined Penge in 1969.

"On December 10 1983 I was told I would have to leave because I had 'gas'. I was not given any compensation for long service, nor my pension funds. I was just given R1 491 and told to leave."

He is not convinced he has contracted a lung disease — "I do not feel anything in my lungs" — and suspects this was a plan to retrench him.

"We did get an X-ray check-up every six months," he said.

Miss Joyce Malatji, a 39-year-old mother of seven, works hard for her money.

She is employed at the Penge asbestos mine, near Burgersfort in Lebowa, and is trucked to and from work daily to earn her living.

She gets R2,50 a shift, which she says stretches an average of 10 hours.

Her job involves keeping a watch on a belt that conveys asbestos from underground to the surface.

She has to remove all waste matter from the asbestos.

She told The Star she had to stand on an unprotected surface about 8 m high and 2 m wide.

"We must remain on our feet

all the time ... and if you lose your balance you may fall to the ground.

"There is no lunch hour. When we want to eat, we have to use one hand while the other hand is sorting out the unwanted material from the asbestos."

NO PROTECTION

When she and about 60 other women from the neighbouring villagers joined the mine, she said, it had been emphasised to them that asbestos was dangerous and should not be consumed.

"But we were not given anything to protect us from this dangerous thing. One day I forgot to wipe it off my hands and touched an eye.

"It became red and very painful and I was taken to hospital where I received treatment," she said, pointing to her eye which still has a red mark.

Miss Malatji has to feed, educate and clothe her seven children from the plus-minus R60 paypacket she takes home at the end of the month. Often she has to borrow money from relatives and friends, she said.

Her wages were increased by 30 cents on July 1.

She said: "The mine authorities should pay us for working at such a dangerous place because we are risking our health, and possibly our lives."

She said her work shifts are: 2 am to 12 noon; 10 am to 8 pm; and 8 pm to 5.30 am.

ESTABLISHMENT OF GRAIN TERMINAL STUDIED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 26 Jul 84 p 15

[Text]

DURBAN. — A R200 000 study to determine the feasibility of building a high capacity grain terminal at Richard's Bay with a 500 000-ton capacity, has been announced by the Maize Board in Durban.

The chairman of the Board, Mr Crawford von Abo, said ministerial approval had been given for the funds to be paid to a consortium of consulting engineers to implement the study "as a matter of urgency."

"The establishment of such a grain terminal has become of the utmost importance, not only for South Africa, but also for countries such as Zambia, Zimbabwe and Zaire," he said.

"The marketing of South African grain needs to be rationalised and a mass terminal at Richard's Bay would be the focal point for such rationalisation.

"Because of its location and proximity to the high producing maize areas of Natal and the Eastern Transvaal, it could in the long run lead to savings of millions of rands on rail-lage alone," he said.

Mr Von Abo said that with the facility being planned to handle ship-loads of up to 60 000 tons,

"the benefits which flow from bulk handling will also run into many millions (of rands) over the years.

"It will allow us to import at lower cost and we would score tremendously on exports and so much less of the contract price would be spent on shipping costs."

He said handling and storage costs were increasing at an alarming rate and today totalled R60 a ton, compared with seven years ago when the price of maize was R60 a ton. Having the 500 000-ton capacity at Richard's Bay would also be of great strategic value for export.

"If we have the tonnage available at such a strategic point, it will enable us to respond far more quickly in sales to the world market and, similarly, at times when we need to import, we could buy at the best prices and import in bulk without disrupting our internal transport services."

Mr Von Abo said it was imperative that all steps be taken to put the agricultural economy on its feet "because South Africa's economy could never reach its full potential while the agricultural economy is not sound."

ARSON AT L'OBSERVATEUR ATTRIBUTED TO RIGHTWING ELEMENTS

Ouagadougou CARREFOUR AFRICAINE in French No 835, 15 Jun 84 p 19

[Editorial by " S.X.S."]

/Text/ The fire, intentionally set, which destroyed the premises of the OBSERVATEUR newspaper on the night of Sunday 10 June raises a number of questions in national press circles. It is never pleasant for a journalist or a press institution to see a colleague in trouble, much less one forced to suspend publication. And when this kind of trouble comes about as the result of acts of sheer vandalism, the wondering escalates into legitimate concern as to its instigators and their motives. In Africa, where launching a newspaper is something like betting on a long shot, L'OBSERVATEUR was a challenge in the African press world, not least by reason of its eccentricities of form. And in its 10 years of existence, the local privately owned paper managed to overcome its humble beginnings and rise to the rank of a press institution in the sub-region.

Yet, aside from these scraps of background and shoptalk, it is time to ask a few questions as to the kind of people who might have been behind the 10 June act of vandalism, and as to the political implications of that deed.

All observers in press circles agree that this crime was purely gratuitous: the scenario was simple: Armed men forced the watchman to open the doors to the pressroom, sprinkled it with canfuls of gasoline, and tossed a match to it. Bottom line: close to 10 million francs gone up in smoke and dozens of reporters, technicians, and office-workers left jobless. Just as the RDP was launching a major battle against joblessness and under-employment, acts of economic sabotage like this one are crimes, pure and simple. And the act of arson committed on 10 June might well be just the opening gun in a campaign...

Then there is the political side. Less than an hour after the CDRs' release of their motion to warn L'OBSERVATEUR on the matter of the "rumors" that paper printed, the attack on L'OBSERVATEUR's plant stinks of anti-CDR provocation. The whole thing seems to have gone off accordingly to a carefully timed and prepared scenario. All

the plotters were waiting for now was a likely occasion for executing their plan so that the CDRs would be blamed for the crime. After all, it would be inconceivable that, with legal and lawful means for dealing with the spreading of false news (Law No 20 AL, 31 May 1959 etc.), sincere and responsible members should use the CDRs for criminal fraud and conspiracy directed against the paper. The people are not mocked, and it seems clear already that the purpose in the arsonists' minds was to cast suspicion on and discredit the CDRs and, through them, the entire CNR and the revolutionary process.

At this point, one moves naturally to the question as to the emergence here of anarchist splinter-groups manipulated by or knowingly working for the Right-wing cause, and using and abusing the broad liberties the people of Upper Volta won on 4 August. This crime unquestionably benefits the Right, which is visibly seeking to set off a string of terrorist acts all over this country, designed to intimidate CDR activists. Using these psychotic arsonists to exploit the righteous indignation of CDR members against the anti-popular position of L'OBSERVATEUR is part of this strategy designed to destabilize the regime and discredit it at home and abroad. The shameless exploitation that a portion of the foreign press has engaged in over this incident is one piece of evidence. One more.

The aggressiveness of certain splinter-groups since the start of the revolutionary process is taking on increasingly alarming proportions, and their unconfessed goal of dragging the CNR into a repression-reaction cycle so as to charge that the regime has gone fascist is emerging with ever-increasing clarity.

6182

CSO: 3419/822

UPPER VOLTA

VOLTANS IN PARIS ORGANIZE CDR, PUBLISH MAGAZINE

Ouagadougou CARREFOUR AFRICAINE in French No 836, 22 Jun 84 p 13

[Excerpts] Responding to the 4 August 1983 summons to all the people of Upper Volta to join in committees to defend the Revolution (CDRs), and aware of their revolutionary duty to defend that Revolution everywhere, Upper Voltan patriots living in Paris met on 23 October 1983 in a general assembly and set up a CDR embracing men and women, workers, students, scholars, etc... In order to mount an informed and responsible defense for the people's democratic revolution, one of whose current necessities is political and ideological training to provide consciousness-raising and sound education for its members, the Paris CDR has published a magazine called L'EVEIL (Awakening-- the voice of the Paris CDR). This magazine, whose publication schedules are yet to be set and whose zero issue came out last April, intends to be a tool for agitation and political propaganda, an organ of news and of education.

According to the editorial in that zero issue, L'EVEIL plans, among other matters, to do the following:

- to keep members informed on the national and international situation and on the situation inside the CDR;
- to provide political education to members in a revolutionary spirit on the basis of the political line that emerged from the orientation debate of the National Council of the Revolution (CNR);
- to organize members behind the tactical slogans with a view to the defense and subsequent consolidation of our revolution.

The Paris CDR Bureau elected on 18 December 1983 chose as its chairman Comrade Zacharie Badini. L'EVEIL also informs us of the establishment on 4 February 1984 of the CDR of the Upper Volta Embassy in Paris, a CDR whose chairman is Comrade Bernard Ouedraogo.

6182

CS0: 3419/822

AUGUST REVOLUTION PONDERES PEACE WITH CAPITALISM

Ouagadougou CARREFOUR AFRICAINE in French No 837, Jun 84 p 7

[Editorial by Babou Paulin Bamouni]

Now that the August revolution has the power of state and of government well in hand, all it needs is economic power -- capital -- enough to acquire the means to consolidate its position and resolutely to advance. Our revolution thus faces a ticklish phase in its evolution, because any effort to seize this power must face a number of objective factors that rule out direct assault:

1. The Voltan economy is potentially weak and fundamentally backward because of the existing archaic, feudal-style economic structures that stunt the growth of the infant capitalist-style economy;
2. The structural fragmentation of the national economy and the shapeless sprawl of the state-run economy, due to the conceptual and technical ineptitude of the Voltan economists and political officials under the now-vanished reactionary governments;
3. The foreign monopolization of the profitable sectors of our economy;
4. The extraverted attitude of the national economy, which as a rule is subject to no state control whatever;
5. The control of small-scale commerce by the petty bourgeoisie, who have a thousand ways to outwit or obviate any meaningful regulation of the sector;
6. The wait-and-see stance assumed by businessmen and investors vis-a-vis the August revolution, etc., etc.

That means the job is going to be hard, because if the bourgeoisie by losing the power of state has officially lost the administrative power as well, that is not true of its economic power. Winning that power, given these factors and the open hostility, looks like a longterm engagement where tactics will be necessary. Any victory for the revolution will depend on astute combinations of the possibilities afforded by the two powers it has already won, because the enemy is on full alert, and quite ready to scuttle its fleet. Must we allow the fact that the revolution and capital are diametrically opposed in the pursuit of their goals to frighten them still more? From the ideological point of view, that is conceivable. From the tactical and realistic level, though, we could

talk of compromise, and argue that capital -- with adequately sturdy guardrails--is compatible with the August revolution. Not to contemplate this eventuality in the face of the objective factors barring the way to the revolution would be tantamount to its walking blindly into its own stinging defeat in efforts to take over economic power. Every revolution is made and consolidated with the people and with capital (money) in the present economic context. This capital must be procured from where it is -- which is to say from the capitalists. There is but one precaution to be taken: don't let the capitalists trap you. This is the situation the August revolution faces now.

In order to do this, Upper Volta's economy, controlled essentially by the wealthy traders and the petty bourgeoisie (that same broad-branching petty bourgeoisie that is right now back at the levers of power thanks to its control of the administration), needs to be rebuilt in its present anarchic form on the basis of its content -- meaning capitalism via a move toward state capitalism. That's right, state capitalism utilized as a vehicle for transition toward an economy of quite another kind and quality. Basically, state capitalism, in relation to the present situation, is a step forward, and never mind what the hard-line dogmatists may say. The fact is that we have to deal with several kinds of economies here in Upper Volta: some parts of the country have a barter economy; some have a market economy (peasants selling millet or goats); we have a private capitalist economy; a state capitalist economy; a monopoly capitalist economy (the Bravolta Company, for example), etc. All these aspects reveal the transitional side of the Voltan economy that calls for some channel to pull it together; that channel, in the present circumstances, would be state capitalism to assure the revolution's tight control over the economy and over production. On this score, Lenin lights the way: "Socialism is not possible without the techniques of big capitalism, designed according to the latest word of modern science, without a methodical organization of the state which subjects tens of millions of men to the strictest possible adherence to a single standard in the production and distribution of products." (Selected Works, vol 3, page 590 Editions du Progres Moscow). It is thus a tactical ploy, and not, as some seem tempted to believe, a reformist move. The chances of success for any other approach are slim.

This means that the private capitalist economy must be either banished from Upper Volta or nationalized! Right? Not at all! The August revolution has a place for the private capitalist economy during a phase of "peaceful cohabitation." It remains for those who engage in it to adopt a certain approach involving scrupulous respect for the new arrangements. That will be hard to do, but that's the way it is! In the last analysis, the revolution must achieve firm control of all three powers in order to put itself on a sound footing for achieving its objectives. Perhaps it is this prospect that seems to counsel some businessmen to sit tight and

do nothing for the time being. They're wrong, because from the point of view of investment and economic action, the August revolution guarantees them full freedom to operate. That means that they can freely dispose of their property and organize and run their lawfully established enterprises in Upper Volta as they see fit. Furthermore, all physical and legal entities lawfully established in Upper Volta are guaranteed any and all acquired rights. All the apprehensions voiced from one quarter and another are thus unfounded, insofar as the August revolution, in this initial phase, has need, as Lenin said, of "the techniques of big capitalism" to forge the rails it will run on. Furthermore, when it comes to investments, all kinds of advantages and incentives written into the new investment code are widely available to investors. These are matters of some importance in a revolutionary process! Stability of the regime? Not to worry! This is the people, so of course! Even though revolutionary logic demands that economic power pass into the hands of the revolution, one conciliatory step seems to have been taken by that same revolution to make capital a dynamic social factor. Any negative attitude on the part of those who hold capital is thus no longer tenable.

In every case, one thing is certain: in a class struggle, compromises are possible, but what is impossible-- for rational revolutionaries-- is to abandon the ideal. This is the ground from which the August revolution sees matters as it looks at big capital!

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UPPER VOLTA

BRIEFS

HELP FOR GENDARMERIE--As part of the Franco-Upper Voltan cooperation program, the national gendarmerie on 19 June took delivery of a shipment of stenographic and office equipment . The consignment consists of 15 manual typewriters, one stencil-cutter, one mimeograph machine, one copier, one electric duplicator and one bindery stitcher. This shipment, valued at 6 million CFA francs, will round out the first delivery of an audio-visual teaching classroom in February 1984. It should be noted that this gift is part of the gendarmerie equipment aid program that began in October 1982 and which as of today has provided 80 million CFA francs' worth of equipment and vehicles. [Text] [Ouagadougou CARREFOUR AFRICAIN in French No 835, 15 Jun 84 p 8] 6182

AGRARIAN REFORM COMMISSION--The cabinet at its Wednesday 13 June meeting chaired by Comrade Thomas Sankara, president of the National Council of the Revolution and head of State, began at 0800. The cabinet examined the items on its agenda, reached several decisions, and made one appointment and one settlement. It approved a report on implementation of the air transport agreement between our country and the Kingdom of Belgium, and another on ratification of the agreement with the People's Republic of Benin on access to the port of Cotonou. Moving next to deal with the major issue of land in Upper Volta, the cabinet set up an interministerial technical commission on agrarian reform and land ownership, to be headed by the comrade Minister of Interior and Security. This commission, including representatives from the ministries of Interior and Security, of Environment and Tourism, Equipment and Communications, of Finance, of Rural Development, and of Scientific Research, is expected to submit its findings on all these matters no later than 13 July 1984. [Excerpts] [Ouagadougou CARREFOUR AFRICAIN in French No 835, 15 Jun 84 p 9] 6182

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ZAMBIA

BRIEFS

1984 BUDGET—The 1984 budget has been approved with expenditures of 1,507,900,000 kwachas and anticipated receipts of 1,240,000,000 kwachas. Investment expenditures amount to 193 million kwachas. [Text] [Paris AFRIQUE DEFENSE in French No 74, May 84 p 28] 5170

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